FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 029 *9 February 1979*

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Arab Economic Unity Council Secretary Winds Up Gulf Tour A 1
MENA, SUNA Suspension From Federation Due to Debts A 1

ARABIAN PENINSULA

BAHRAIN

Arab Gulf Information Ministers Meeting in Manama Ends C 1

UAE

Minister Urges Greater Share in Oil-Refining Operations C 1
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 31 Jan]

YEMEN-PDRY

'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il Comments on Recent Arab Tour C 2
Kuwait Airport Statement C 2
Aden Airport Statement C 3
Announces Joint Communique C 4
Defense Ministry Issues Military Conscription Notice C 5

EGYPT

President as-Sadat Receives U.S. Ambassador Eilts D 1
President as-Sadat Arrives in Ismailia 8 Feb D 1
Defense Minister Ends Tour of Military Sectors D 1
Cairo Paper Cites Military Operation Near Sudan Border D 2
Writer Urges Khomeyni To Shun Secular Power [AKHBAR AL-YAWM 3 Feb] D 2

IRAQ

Communique Issued on Official Visit of Yugoslav President Tito E 1
Tito Cables Al-Bakr E 3
INA Reports Release of Two Iraqi Citizens in Sweden E 4
Anniversary of 8 February Revolution Celebrated E 4
Baghdad VOP Comments on Secretary Brown's Coming Visit E 5
AL-MUSTAQBAL Cites Pro-Shah Statement by 'Senior Iraqi Official' [2 Feb] E 6

JORDAN

Syrian Foreign Minister Arrives; Message to King Husayn F 1
King Husayn Speaks on Prophet's Birthday F 1

LEBANON

ADF Issues Communique on Explosion in Beirut G 1
Voice of Lebanon Reports Beirut Explosion G 1
Voice of Lebanon Reports Sniping in Beirut G 1
Northern Governor Says Kidnaped Persons Safe G 2
VOL: Four Syrian Nationalists Kidnaped in Amyun G 2

SYRIA

President Tito Arrives on Official Visit 8 Feb H 1
Al-Asad Gives Dinnet for Tito H 1
Al-Asad Banquet Speech H 1
Tito Banquet Speech H 3
Tito, Al-Asad Hold Talks H 5
Foreign Ministers Meet H 5
Party Officials Meet H 6
President Al-Asad Urges Clemency for Bhutto H 6
Foreign Minister Returns Home From Jordan H 6
Al-Asad Endorses Record State Budget for 1979 H 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Interior Minister Announces Chadli Bendjedid's Election I 1
JANA Reports Interview With Chadli Bendjedid I 2

LIBYA

CSSR's Strougal Talks of Frank, Objective Meetings I 3
Al-Qadhdhafi Urges Nyerere To Withdraw Troops From Uganda I 4

MAURITANIA

Ruling Military Committee Sanctions Progovernment Marches I 4

MOROCCO

MAP: Pressmen Visit Scene of Tan-Tan Confrontation I 5
Hassan Asks Ziaul Haq To Commute Bhutto Death Sentence I 5

SUDAN

Official on Results of Numayri Visit to Riyadh I 5
French Ministry Official Stern Leaves Following Visit I 6
Stern Press Conference I 6
Tripoli Reports Egyptian Troops on Sudan's Libyan Border I 7

TUNISIA

Bourguiba Sends Greetings to Algeria's Bendjedid I 7

ISRAEL

8 February Cabinet Session Discusses Peace Talks, Economy N 1
Weizman Urges Extraordinary Steps Toward Peace N 1
Minister Landau Comments on Current State of Peace Talks N 1
Minister Tamir Scores Egyptian Demands N 2
YEDI'OT AHARONOT Reports Atherton Comment on Peace [2 Feb] N 2
Begin Reacts to Washington POST Report on Torture N 3
More on Tamir Reaction N 3
MA'ARIV Comments on Weizman-Sharon Relations [8 Feb] N 4
El Al To Continue Flights to Tehran N 5

IRAN

Bakhtiar Defends Actions as Prime Minister in Interview R 1
Bakhtiar Comments on Khomeyni, Bazargan at Press Conference R 2
Bakhtiar Comments on Role of Army at Press Conference R 7
AFP: Bazargan Calls on Bakhtiar To Resign R 8
AFP: Khomeyni Sets Up Own Television Station R 9
Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari Comments on Islamic Republic R 9
[Paris L'AURORE 6 Feb]
Khomeyni Aide Bani Sadr Comments on Future Oil Policy R 10
[Tokyo JOAK TV]
Tehran Paper Reports U.S., PRAVDA Reactions to Events R 11
Peaceful Demonstration Held in Capital, Violence in Gorgan R 11
Gorgan Death Toll Reaches 12 R 11
Tehran: 25,000 March in Favor of Bakhtiar in Reza'iyeh R 12
Tudeh Party Issues Declaration on People's Resistance R 12
[East Berlin NEUES Deutschland 6 Feb]
Budapest Newspaper Interviews Tudeh's Kianuri [cross-reference] R 13
NVOI: Revolutionary Movement Wants National Republic R 13

SOUTH ASIA

PAKISTAN

PLO Delegation Arrives With 'Arafat Message for Haq S 1
Clemency for Bhutto S 1
Judicial Panels To Rule on Islamic Laws S 1

ARAB ECONOMIC UNITY COUNCIL SECRETARY WINDS UP GULF TOUR

JN090910 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 9 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 9 February--Dr Fakhri Qadduri, secretary general of the Arab Economic Unity Council, returned to Baghdad early today at the end of a 5-day visit to Kuwait and the UAE.

Dr Qadduri stated that his talks with the two countries' officials were intended to outline the sequence of events that followed the Egyptian authorities' decision to deport him from Egypt. He said that the possibility of convening an extraordinary council session to consider the situation and the need to preserve the continuity of the council and its secretary general in a normal manner were also discussed.

Dr Qadduri asserted that his meetings were fruitful and had further consolidated the council's position. He explained that he will soon tour several Arab countries, all members of the council, for the same purpose.

MENA, SUNA SUSPENSION FROM FEDERATION DUE TO DEBTS

JN041227 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 4 February--Muhammad al-Mashnuq, chairman of the Federation of Arab News Agencies, has stated that the decision to freeze the membership of the MIDDLE EAST NEWS AGENCY [MENA] and the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY [SUNA] was taken for a purely professional reason: namely, the two agencies' failure to pay their share in the federation's budget for 3 successive years.

In a press statement distributed here today, Mr al-Mashnuq said that the Federation will ask the two agencies to pay their subscription fees for the past years before operating again in the Federation.

BAHRAIN

ARAB GULF INFORMATION MINISTERS MEETING IN MANAMA ENDS

JN081203 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] Manama, 8 February--The fourth conference of Arab Gulf Information Ministers ended its meeting here today.

The conference adopted a number of resolutions and recommendations stressing the gulf countries' concern about developing information cooperation among them and supporting joint information projects approved by previous conferences.

UAE

MINISTER URGES GREATER SHARE IN OIL-REFINING OPERATIONS

LD081621 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 31 Jan 79 p 10 LD

['Adil Bashtawi report]

[Text] London--UAE Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah suggested here today increasing to 50 percent the oil-producing countries' participation in worldwide oil-refining operations.

The minister said that such a goal might be achieved in 5 to 10 years' time but that it is possible to study the aspects of participation in refining and shipping as well as other petrochemical industry activities between the producing countries and the consuming countries, particularly the industrial states which control a great part of the world's petroleum industry. The minister suggested the North-South dialog as one of the venues for discussing this matter.

The minister did not indicate whether this proposal is acceptable to the other oil-producing countries but said that the methods by which petroleum industry activities can be shared is to scrap the old oil refineries in Europe and other parts of the world and, at the same time, aid the oil-producing countries to introduce production of byproducts and petrochemicals so that in the coming years their output will equal half the international production capacity.

Addressing a large gathering of officials and Arab and foreign businessmen attending a seminar on implementation of projects in the gulf area held in London yesterday, Dr al-'Utaybah said that politicians who have observed the beginning of oil-production operations in the oil-producing countries were looking forward to the day when the oil industries will develop and the exporting of crude oil as a raw material, as is done now, will stop. He said that the Arab countries' oil-refining capacity is now equal to about 3.6 percent of the world's refining capacity. But this capacity will increase from 2.5 million barrels per day to 4.3 million barrels per day and then to 5.5 million barrels per day in 1985.

Speaking about the domestic situation, the minister said that refineries in the UAE now provide 40 percent of locally consumed byproducts while 60 percent are imported. He said that the Ar-Ruways area oil refinery in Abu Dhabi will increase production from 100,000 barrels per day to 300,000 barrels per day by 1985.

The minister said that the UAE will allocate $20 million to finance the development of petrochemical industries in the country by the middle of next year. He said that British companies can play an important role in the development of oil and petrochemical industries.

Dr Jawad Hashi, president of the Arab Monetary Fund, also addressed the seminar. He said that loans and aid offered by the Arab countries to the developing countries have reached a record level.

Dr Hashim estimated the obligations of six Arab and Islamic aid funds at the end of 1977 at more than $5 billion, while aggregate obligations last year reached about $6 billion out of the funds' capital of $1. billion.

Dr Hashim said that international statistics issued by institutions such as the OECD, which includes 24 industrial states, show that aid and loans from the Arab countries to the developing countries during the 5 years ending 1977 totaled $20-22 billion. In his speech Dr al-'Utaybah said that the UAE is offering about 30 percent of its oil revenues in aid and loans to the developing countries, which means that the UAE offered 6 billion dirhams last year out of revenues totaling 21 billion dirhams.

YEMEN--PDRY

'ABD AL-FATTAH ISMA'IL COMMENTS ON RECENT ARAB TOUR

Kuwaiti Airport Statement

LD081534 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD/EA

["Press statement" by Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, at Kuwaiti airport prior to his departure--read by announcer]

[Text] I can say that our delegation's visit to sisterly Kuwait was successful and the discussions we held with His Highness Brother Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, were marked by an atmosphere of friendly understanding and respect. They achieved results for the benefit of the development of fraternal relations between our two fraternal peoples in particular and for the benefit of the Arab cause in general.

In connection with the development of the current Arab situation, we discussed the dangers springing from imperialist designs following the capitulatory Camp David accord and from the expansionist and aggressive policy of the Israeli entity; and we paid great attention to issues concerning the peoples and countries of our region. We also discussed a number of international questions of common concern.

It can be said that our views on the various issues on our agenda were governed by an atmosphere of understanding and harmony. With regard to the current Arab situation and the dangers our Arab nation is facing from the Zionist enemy backed by imperialist military force, our two sides stressed the necessity and importance of Arab solidarity against imperialism and Zionism and of effective struggle, because these are the decisive elements of strength in our Arab nation's conflict with its enemies to liberate the occupied Arab territories and enable the Palestinian people to determine their destiny and return to their land to build their independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

The current situation in the Arabian Gulf and Arabian Peninsula took up an important part of our discussions with His Highness Amir Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

Both sides stressed that the region needs stability, mutual respect, noninterference in its internal affairs and bilateral and collective cooperation which will promote the peoples' progress, peace and security for their national independence and full sovereignty over their homelands.

As for bilateral relations, we can say the visit has created better circumstances for our two peoples to develop their mutual relations. Here, we would like to record our appreciation and thanks for the fraternal assistance being provided by the Kuwaiti people to our Yemeni people.

In connection with the development of the international situation, our discussions with the brothers in the three Arab countries resulted in joint support for the struggle of peoples against colonialism racism and imperialism and for their national liberation and extrication of their resources from the exploitation and control of imperialist monopolies and utilization of these resources for their development and progress. The discussions were also governed by mutual determination to support efforts to reinforce international detente and halt the arms race in the interest of the cause of world peace. At the level of fraternal relations between Democratic Yemen and the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Syria and Kuwait, we succeeded during the discussions in reaching new agreements for the subsequent development of these relations to serve our joint struggle and yield benefits for the peoples of our countries and their common aspirations and goals.

Aden Airport Statement

LD081534 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Statement by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, secretary-general of the Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee, at the airport in Aden after his return on 7 February from visits to Libya, Syria, and Kuwait--read by announcer]

[Text] I would like to express my pleasure at the positive and fruitful results achieved by our visits to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the Syrian Arab Republic and the state of Kuwait. The visits gave us an opportunity to discuss several issues of common interest at the Arab and international levels, as well as issues concerning the fraternal relations between Democratic Yemen and these countries. Our discussions with brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, brother President Hafiz al-Asad and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah were held in a spirit of understanding, friendship and agreement on the questions discussed. Our views concurred on developments in the Arab region in general. Emphasis was laid in the discussions and joint communiques on the need to unify the potentials of the Arab struggle in order to face American imperialism designs and Zionist occupation and to secure the road ahead in this struggle to liberate the occupied Arab territories, thus enabling the Palestinian people to regain their national rights and build their independent state. Concerning the situation in the Arabian Gulf, the Arabian Peninsula and the Red Sea, discussions of these matters were characterized by frankness and eagerness to insure that the peoples, irrespective of the social systems in the region, should be governed by mutual respect for national sovereignty and cooperation in the spirit of brotherhood and equality in a manner serving stability and the economic development of these peoples and keeping them out of disputes and tension. Emphasis was also laid on the need to resist the imperialist threat and the influence of neocolonialism and its military moves so that our region will remain one of peace.

Announces Joint Communique

LE081845 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1650 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text of communique on the visit to Kuwait by 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, Yemeni Socialist Party--YSP--secretary general and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council.

[Text] At the invitation of his brother the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, his excellency the chairman, brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il YSP secretary general and chairman of the Presidium of the PDRY People's Supreme Council, visited the state of Kuwait at the head of an official delegation from 5 to 7 February 1979.

Brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and the delegation accompanying him were accorded a friendly welcome, expressive of the cordial relations existing between the two countries and the firm brotherly ties linking their two fraternal peoples.

In an atmosphere dominated by a spirit of brotherhood, discussions were held between the two sides in which the Yemeni side was headed by brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il and the Kuwaiti side by Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. A number of officials of the two countries also participated.

During the discussions, the chairman, brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, briefed his brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah on his country's views on developments in the Yemeni arena. The latter said he hopes that the questions raised in the Yemeni arena will be dealt with in a spirit of brotherhood and for the good and benefit of the brotherly Yemeni people and so as to fulfill their wishes for unity and stability.

During their discussions, the two sides reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries in various fields. They noted with gratification the [word indistinct] and growth of the bilateral relations and their continued development for the good of the two countries and the benefit of their fraternal peoples. They reaffirmed their eagerness to continue to work to reinforce the foundations of joint relations in various fields and expand the horizons of fruitful cooperation between their two countries to achieve what their fraternal peoples are aspiring to in this field.

The two sides also discussed with deep interest development in the Arab region. Their views coincided on the need and importance of consolidating Arab solidarity in accordance with the resolutions of Arab summits, particularly that in Baghdad, with special regard for those resolutions on the consolidation of joint Arab action on recovering the occupied Arab territories, securing the full national rights of the Palestinian Arab people and thwarting all Zionist and imperialist designs. In this sphere the two sides affirmed their full support and continuous backing for the Palestinian people in their use and honorable struggle to restore their full legitimate rights and to fulfill their national goals, including building their independent state under the leadership of the PLO, as the sole lawful representative of the Palestinian people.

During their discussions the two sides studied the situation in the gulf, stressing the importance of strengthening cooperation and coordination among the states of the area in order to safeguard their sovereignty, independence and economic development on the basis of their own potentials and capabilities and to preserve the peace and stability of their peoples without foreign interference.

The two sides also reviewed current international issues and exchanged views on them. In this respect they reaffirmed their two countries' backing for people's struggling for liberation and independence and liquidating all forms of colonialism. They also reaffirmed the principle of mutual respect for independence, national sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs and non-use of force in solving disputes between states and adherence to the methods of peaceful dialog. The two sides also expressed their countries' adherence to the basic principles of the UN Charter and their support for efforts to reinforce world peace and security in the interests of mankind.

The two sides also stressed the importance of the part being played by the nonalined states in liquidating colonialism, developing international cooperation and contributing toward confirming the principles of justice and equality in international relations. The two sides look forward to the achievement of positive results by the forthcoming nonalined summit.

The two sides expressed their solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of the African Continent against the racist regimes. They also expressed their support for the establishment of a new international economic order, and reaffirmed the right of states and peoples to dispose of their natural resources and national wealth independently.

The two sides expressed their gratification at the positive results achieved by this visit and agreed to exchange visits between officials of the two countries at various levels to consolidate bilateral relations.

The chairman, brother 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, YSP secretary general and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council in the PDRY, extended an invitation to his brother Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of fraternal Kuwait, to visit Democratic Yemen. The amir accepted it with thanks, at a date to be fixed later.

DEFENSE MINISTRY ISSUED MILITARY CONSCRIPTION NOTICE

LD090115 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] Col 'Ali Ahmad Nasir Antar, candidate member of the Political Bureau and defense minister, has issued a decree calling up the sixth group of those obliged to perform military national service. The group comprises individuals to whom the military and national service law applies and who have not yet served. It also comprises individuals from previous groups whose service was deferred [words indistinct]. The defense minister's decree calls on those due for military and national service to register between 20 February and 2 March and end on 20 March. The decree also lays down that the military and national service recruits begin enlisting from 20 March until April 1979.

Article Five of the decree orders the General Mobilization Department at the Defense Ministry and mobilization departments in the governorates and provinces to implement this decree in coordination with the state sectors, establishments, public and quasi-state corporations and other organs.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT RECEIVES U.S. AMBASSADOR EILTS

NC081333 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1325 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 8 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat this afternoon received U.S. Ambassador Hermann Eilts at the republican place in 'Abidin. Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak was present at the meeting. After the meeting, President as-Sadat was asked about his discussion with Eilts. He said: You can address the question to Ambassador Hermann. I am now going to Ismailia.

The U.S. ambassador after the meeting answered reporters' questions. He said he had conveyed the invitation for the resumption of the peace negotiations between Egypt and Israel. Asked about the date of these talks, he said that the date will be announced in Washington.

The ambassador was told that press reports indicate that a meeting will be held at Camp David, whereas others have reported that it will be in Washington. The ambassador replied that this will be announced in Washington when both sides agree. Asked whether President Anwar as-Sadat had agreed to accept the invitation, the U.S. ambassador said that the president actually agreed.

Hermann Eilts was asked whether the talks will be resumed this month. He said: I believe they will be resumed in a short while at the ministerial level. He added: I was told today that Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil will represent Egypt at the talks. I shall be contacting the prime minister in this regard. [Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic at 0500 GMT on 9 February says that in addition to Prime Minister Khalil, Egypt's delegation to the talks "will include Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali. The radio report also says that "the negotiations will be resumed on 21 February and will be attended by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan."]

Eilts was asked about the likelihood of convening a summit conference. He said: At present I cannot say anything about this. What I have today is an invitation for a meeting at the ministerial level.

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN ISMAILIA 8 FEB

NC0081604 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived in Ismailia this afternoon at the start of a tour of the governorates of Ismailia and Sinai. During the tour the president will inspect food security projects and development and reconstruction projects in the two governorates. President as-Sadat was accompanied by Engineer 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, supervisor of food security projects in Egypt. President as-Sadat replied to a comment by the chief editor of the Jordanian magazine SAWT FALASTIN in which he said that the Palestinian people fully trust President as-Sadat and they are against the outbidders who are trying to harm the Palestinian people. The president said that Egypt will never abandon its responsibility.

DEFENSE MINISTER ENDS TOUR OF MILITARY SECTORS

NC0081739 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1617 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Al-Ghurdaqah, 8 February--Defense and War Production Minister Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has emphasized that peace in the Middle East has become a universal demand.

He also emphasized that conditions in the area and the international conflicts make peace a more pressing issue, requiring our armed forces to be alert and ready to safeguard the soil of their country and to devote themselves to their duties. He added that the development of the Egyptian Armed Forces is a basic and continuous task and that Egypt spares nothing in this regard because it believes that our armed forces must remain strong and capable. The minister paid a 2-day visit to the Red Sea military area. He inspected Al-Ghurdaqah and Safajah sectors and held several meetings with the officers and men. He explained to them the dimensions of the current political situation and the duties and commitments of the armed forces under all circumstances.

During his stay in the area, the minister also visited the Al-Ghurdaqah military hospital and inspected the airbase there. He congratulated the officers and men at the base, which was awarded the Excellence Cup as the best airbase in 1978. The minister and the Red Sea governor, Maj Gen 'Ali Uthman, also discussed the services which the armed forces can extend to the governorate. The defense and war production minister returned from Al-Ghurdaqah today, ending a tour of more than 2-months of the various areas of the armed forces.

CAIRO PAPER CITES MILITARY OPERATION NEAR SUDAN BORDER

NC082145 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo--The newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports today that Egyptian security forces have arrested about 17,000 persons in a big military operation against producers of opium and hashish. Other wanted criminals were also arrested. The semiofficial paper adds that the 4-day operation was directed against two villages in a mountainous area near the Sudanese border. The operation was carried out by 2,500 men who were equipped with long-range weapons.

AL-AKHBAR adds that the campaign against the villages of ('Imariyah) and (Hutah) led to the confiscation of 765 machineguns and rifles and the destruction of thousands of devices for the production of narcotics. Ninety-two persons have been charged with planting opium and hashish, and 16,915 others, described as fugitive criminals, have been arrested. The paper does not mention when this operation took place, nor does it say if there were any casualties.

WRITER URGES KHOMEYNI TO SHUN SECULAR POWER

LD081555 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 3 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Mustafa Amin article: "Do Not Rule, Your Eminence the Imam!"]

[Excerpts] I hope that news agency reports that Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni will rule Iran are not true. A leader is greater than a ruler and a religious leader is greater than all leaders and rulers. A man supported by the people is a thousand times more powerful than the man holding in his hands the scepter of power.

Khomeyni can be the most powerful man in Iran without being the president of the republic, or the prime minister or absolute ruler. In his position as the spiritual leader he is the master of Iran, while in office he will be the servant of Iran. If he rules, half the people will abandon him, and as he stays in power the majority of the people will abandon him. The people want everything and there is no ruler who can satisfy the demands of millions.

I wish Khomeyni had remained at the peak of the spiritual leadership and not descended to the level of state rule. Like a lighthouse he should remain the beacon that guides lost ships to safe harbor.

I hope that Khomeyni will devote himself to a task greater than that of heading the government--the task of purifying the state after it has indulged in materialism for many long years.

Khomeyni would serve Islam better if he shunned power than if he assumed power. If he assumes power and arrests his opponents who have spread corruption, he will be accused of cruelty, and if he pardons them he will be accused of weakness. If he brings the shah to trial people will say it is a sin to flog a dead corpse, and if he lets him alone his supporters will accuse him of weakening before the shah.

If leader Khomeyni remains aloof from power, he would then become a legend whereas if he assumes power, he would become a mere story. Those who are lying in wait for him will not leave him alone but will be daily creating problems for him.

The Soviet Union wants to devour him after he has devoured the shah. The United States wants to contain him in order to preserve its threatened influence and interests. Israel is terrified by the explosion of anger against it in Iran because of the lessons in torture its intelligence has taught Iranian intelligence, the lessons that left their imprints in the whip lashes on the backs of hundreds of thousands of Iranians. The Iranian people's first unanimous decision is to sever relations with Israel and to stop selling its oil.

Libya wants the new Iran to join the terrorist camp, Iraq wants the new Iran to join the rejectionist camp and Syria wants it to become Ba'thist.

In light of these conflicting ambitions, Iran needs a devoted leader to defend it. The ouster of the shah will not prevent the entry of the wolves. It is Iran's care for its independence and freedom that will stand as a barrier in the face of wolves and hyenas.

AFP said that Moscow has suddenly changed its tone and begun talking about Khomeyni as Iran's man. We believe that this is an Israeli campaign [as published]. Yes, Moscow wants to embrace Khomeyni now it has realized that he is a great power in Iran. This is Moscow's policy with every strong man anywhere. But Khomeyni is not a child with whom the Soviet Union can play. A man who has lived for 78 years believing in God will not end his life by denying God, and he who has spent 15 years in exile resisting dictatorship and tyranny will not agree to replace autocratic tyranny with party tyranny.

Khomeyni knows well that Islam has liberated the individual and freed slaves; therefore, he will not be the man to turn free men into slaves while knowing well that Islam advocates consultation and does not accept tyranny. Khomeyni knows that Islam urges respect for all religions and, therefore, will not accept alliance with those who call for the abolition of all religions. Islam is the religion of freedom and not of jails, detention camps and shackles.

What we hope is that Khomeyni will remain seated on the throne of hearts and will not sit on the Peacock Throne. We hope that he will prove to the whole world that Islam is total democracy, total freedom and total justice and that it is the religion of compassion and tolerance and not of hatred and revenge.

Khomeyni can achieve all this without carrying the sword that severs people's heads. He needs only carry the Koran.

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON OFFICIAL VISIT OF YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT TITO

JN081556 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1516 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text of joint Iraqi-Yugoslav statement issued on Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito's 4-8 February visit to Iraq]

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Feb--In response to an invitation from President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, president of the Iraqi Republic, Josip Broz Tito, president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, paid an official and friendly visit to Iraq from 4 to 8 February 1979.

In an atmosphere of friendship, confidence and mutual respect, talks took place between the two presidents. The talks dealt with the relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two countries. The two presidents also discussed the international situation and paid special attention to the latest developments in the Arab area, the Joint Charter for National Action between Iraq and Syria, the results of the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad, and the questions related to the sixth nonalined conference which will be held in Havana.

President Tito received Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council. They had friendly and frank talks on the strong bilateral relations which are developing in all fields to serve the interests of the two countries and two peoples. They also made a detailed review of the situation in the Arab area, questions related to nonalinement, and international issues of joint interest. The talks revealed an identity of views on all these issues.

Other talks were held at the party level during which views were exchanged between the Iraqi and Yugoslav sides with the aim of consolidating the comradely relationship between them as well as the relations of friendship between the two countries. The two sides asserted the significance of these talks in getting acquainted with each other's experience and in consolidating the relations of cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Yugoslav League of Communists [LCY]. The two sides signed a protocol for party cooperation.

The talks between President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and President Josip Broz Tito were attended by the following from the Iraqi side: Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and minister of housing and reconstruction; 'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council member and minister of planning; Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs; Tariq Hamad al-aAbdallah, acting head of the president's office; 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, Foreign Ministry under secretary and Husayn Hayyawi, ambassador of the Iraqi Republic in Belgrade.

The following attended the talks from the Yugoslav side: Branko Mijulic, member of the Federal Council for International Relations; Dobrivoje Vidic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia; Josip Vrhovec, foreign minister; Andrej Marinc, vice president of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council; Berislav Badurina, chief of Cabinet of the president of the republic; Budimir Loncar, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; and Zivko Mucalov, Yugoslav ambassador in Baghdad.

On reviewing bilateral relations, President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and President Josip Broz Tito noted with satisfaction that the fruitful cooperation between the two countries and the relations of friendship between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the LCY are developing and strengthening to serve their mutual interests and are in harmony with the objectives and principles of nonalinement and the aspirations of peace-loving peoples. They affirmed their determination to consolidate the bonds of Iraqi-Yugoslav friendship.

The two sides attached special interest to the economic cooperation between the two countries. They appreciated the progress made in this domain and noted the availability of the suitable factors to expand this cooperation to include all fields in the service of the mutual interests of the two countries. The two sides noted with satisfaction the positive results of the meeting of the Iraqi-Yugoslav joint committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation which contributed to the expansion of cooperation between the two countries in all fields.

The Yugoslav side expressed its great admiration for the socialist achievements realized by the Iraqi people under the leadership of the Ba'th Party on the road to socialism, building an independent national economy and control of the country's natural resources.

The Iraqi side expressed its great appreciation of the socialist accomplishments of the Yugoslav people through self-management.

The two presidents noted with anxiety that tension continues to prevail in various areas in the world particularly due to the imperialist aggression and intervention in the domestic affairs of other countries. The two presidents condemned all attempts aimed at curbing the nationalist struggle of peoples for liberation and political and economic independence which constitute vital elements for the consolidation of security and the establishment of just peace and compatible international relations. In this regard, the two sides affirmed the importance they attach to the principles of the UN Charter.

On reviewing the situation in the Arab region, the two sides strongly condemned the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian people and Arab countries and the continuation of the Zionist occupation of the Arab territories. They affirmed that a just and durable peace cannot be established without the total withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Arab territories and the guarantee of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination, return to their homeland and the establishment of their independent state. The two sides affirmed their support for the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr reviewed the unionist steps taken by the Iraqi and Syrian leaderships to unify the two countries in accordance with the Joint Charter for National Action signed last October.

President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr also made a detailed review of the results of the ninth Arab summit conference held in Baghdad. President Tito expressed his appreciation for the determination of the Iraqi and Syrian leaderships in their efforts to consolidate relations between the two countries as well as the unionist steps taken by the two leaderships. President Tito assessed this as an important contribution to the consolidation of unity and solidarity among the Arab countries.

President Tito also praised Iraq's initiative and efforts to convene the ninth Arab summit conference. He noted that the results achieved by the conference are positive and will contribute to the consolidation of Arab solidarity and joint Arab action.

The two presidents pointed out that the slowness in the elimination of colonialism from Africa is a dangerous threat to peace and security in this area and in the world in general.

The two presidents denounced the attempts by the racist, colonialist, and imperialist forces which are trying, through various maneuvers and the violation of the resolutions of the international community, to obstruct the efforts aimed at achieving independence for the peoples of Zimbabwe and Namibia. They also denounced the policy of apartheid in South Africa and pledged to continue to render support to the struggle of the African peoples for the sake of achieving political, social and economic emancipation.

The two presidents pointed out the significance of the extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly on disarmament and the results reached by the session. They asserted the need to implement the final document adopted by the session.

President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr and President Tito pointed out the need to exert firmer efforts to establish an international economic order capable of eliminating monopoly, exploitation and all forms of inequality in relations between the advanced and the developing countries. The two presidents reaffirmed the continuing right of peoples to utilize their natural resources to develop their countries and achieve their national goals.

They expressed their satisfaction over the increasing role being played by the nonalined movement in strengthening international cooperation and in establishing equal democratic international relations.

They asserted the need to uphold the basic principles of the nonalined movement in a manner that guarantees its ingenuity and independence and that makes it an indispensable element for peace and progress in the world. The two sides strongly objected to all attempts to divide the nonalined movement. They will exert their efforts to guarantee the proper preparations for the forthcoming summit conference of the nonalined countries which will be held in Havana in a manner that will guarantee the success of the conference.

The Yugoslav side again expressed its support for the proposal made by the nonalined countries to convene the seventh summit conference in Baghdad. The Yugoslav side also expressed Yugoslavia's appreciation of Iraq's preparedness to host the conference.

They expressed their appreciation of the fruitful results achieved by the visit. They affirmed the significance of the continued contacts, meetings and consultations among the leaders of the two countries with the aim of achieving further cooperation and expanding relations between the two countries and peoples.

President Josip Broz Tito expressed his gratitude to President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr for the warm reception and hospitality accorded him and his entourage on the official and popular levels during their visit to friendly Iraq.

President Tito extended an invitation to President al-Bakr to visit Yugoslavia. President Tito also extended an invitation to Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn to visit Yugoslavia. The two invitations were accepted gladly and the dates of the two visits will be fixed later.

Tito Cables Al-Bakr

JN081525 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1456 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Feb--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has received a cable from Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito at the end of his official visit to Iraq. The cable affirms the preparedness of Iraq and Yugoslavia to make efforts together with the rest of the nonalined countries to strengthen the unity of the nonalined movement and to establish balanced relations in the world.

The cable says: Before leaving the friendly soil of Iraq, I would like to convey, in my name and on behalf of the members of the delegation, our great thanks for the cordial welcome and the hospitality accorded to us. I am confident that the talks which took place during our visit will contribute to the development of relations based on intensive cooperation and extreme mutual confidence between Yugoslavia and Iraq and between our two parties. I am happy that this visit has reaffirmed the preparedness of our two countries to be committed together with the rest of the nonalined nations to make efforts within the nonalined movement to strengthen its unity and to defend all current international issues and to establish balanced relations in the world. I take this opportunity to convey to Your Excellency personally my best regards together with my best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of the friendly Iraqi people.

INA REPORTS RELEASE OF TWO IRAQI CITIZENS IN SWEDEN

JN081454 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Stockholm, 8 Feb--Two Iraqi citizens who had been arrested by the Swedish authorities while they were under medical treatment in a Stockholm hospital have been released.

Their release took place yesterday and was the result of the Iraqi Embassy's efforts due to their health condition.

The two Iraqi citizens are As-'Ad (as-Safar), arrested 1 hour after undergoing an operation, and 'Adnan 'Abd al-Hamzah, who also was under treatment.

Three days ago the Swedish authorities arrested an Iraqi diplomat on charges of contacting a police officer. The Swedish authorities retracted their accusations, released him and allowed him to leave the country. The Swedish authorities had earlier requested three Iraqi diplomats to leave the country after being declared personae non gratae.

In a statement published by the press today, the Arab Student Federation in Sweden denounced the Swedish police measures against the Iraqi Embassy members. The statement protests these measures and calls for the cancellation of the decision to expel the Iraqi diplomats for lack of evidence and of legal standing. The Arab Student Federation in Sweden sent a copy of the statement to the Swedish Government.

ANNIVERSARY OF 8 FEBRUARY REVOLUTION CELEBRATED

JN081746 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1732 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Feb--The masses of the Iraqi people today celebrated the 16th anniversary of the 8 February revolution, the first revolution staged by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in Iraq.

On this occasion, popular rallies, processions and festivals were organized in all Iraqi districts. Thousands of citizens along with the revolution's vanguards, clubs, and popular and vocational organizations participated.

On this occasion also, President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, deputy secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, visited the party's museum in Al-Karkh in Baghdad.

On the occasion, many projects were inaugurated and foundation stones were laid for other projects in the various areas of Iraq at a cost of 80,266,296 Iraqi dinars. The projects include industrial, agricultural, health, educational, cultural and social services projects.

BAGHDAD VOP COMMENTS ON SECRETARY BROWN'S COMING VISIT

JN072026 Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Prior to the invitation that the group of reactionary regimes linked with U.S. imperialism extended to U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown to visit the area, Western propaganda media began to talk about this suspect visit, describing it as aimed at reassuring these regimes and affirming that the United States will remain their protector. This is particularly so after the media described the disappointment of these regimes with the weak stand toward the changes in Iran.

By merely hearing this flagrant talk about Brown's visit and the intensified U.S. moves, the Arab citizen quickly realizes the imperialist aim behind this propaganda and what imperialist circles are planning in participation with Arab reaction and Zionist entity.

U.S. imperialism is aware of the developments that have taken place and are taking place. It is the party first and foremost concerned with what happens. What is happening threatens its oil and strategic interests. After that comes its fear for its agents. Thus, Harold Brown's visit is not an invitation by one side but a result of premeditated coordination and consultation between Washington and its agents in the area.

In addition to this, reactionaries have no option but to be allied with Washington no matter the form or vagueness or helplessness of the U.S. stand toward the Iranian people's revolution.

Brown's visit is not the first made by U.S. officials to the area since Washington began to lose control of the situation in Iran. A joint delegation from the Pentagon and CIA experts visited the reactionary regimes some time ago. Also Atherton visited the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity. This visit was partly aimed at attempting to resume the negotiations and partly to seek a common base for coming U.S. missions in the area.

With his important military (?status) in the U.S. administration, Brown's visit cannot be aimed only at reassuring the reactionary regimes, for any U.S. Embassy or a letter from Carter would have sufficed. The main aim of Harold Brown's visit to the area can be summed up in two important points: the first is connected with Washington's search for new alternative positions for those threatened with closure in Iran, and learning the quality of weapons which these regimes require to compensate for the shah's role. The second point is trying to know whether it is possible to link these regimes with the Zionist entity by a new military alliance or linking them with NATO, thus concealing certain inconsistencies between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity on the one hand and creating a new strategic belt for U.S. imperialism on the other.

This is the foreseeable aim of the visit by the U.S. military delegation and of the latest U.S. moves. This requires the Arab masses to raise their voices in the face of this havoc to their destiny, security and pride.

AL-MUSTAQBAL CITES PRO-SHAH STATEMENT BY 'SENIOR IRAQI OFFICIAL'

JN061220 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 2 Feb 79 pp 8, 9 JN

[Nasir ad-Din an-Nashashibi article: "The Past, Present and Future--What Is Needed Is Zahedi No 2"]

[Excerpts] A senior Iraqi official told me this week outside Iraq: We, that is Iraq, no longer have any outstanding problems with the shah. All our border, Kurdish, and water problems with Iran have been solved. We, that is Iraq, are the ones who advised Ayatollah Khomeyni to leave Iraq out of our desire to maintain neighborly ties with Iran, because we would not welcome any radical change to the Iranian regime.

The Iraqi official continued: The shah's tragedy is that he kept aloof from the people and became a captive of megalomania. He bestowed on himself the title of "aryamehr" which means the sun of the Aryans. He paid no attention to the thousands of Iranian intellectuals living abroad and thus turned them into enemies. He was harsh and authoritative, poking his big nose into everything. For instance, he dismissed his foreign minister once just because the minister allowed a Russian plane to pass through Iranian airspace on its way to Egypt. The shah hated the Arabs and Muslims. The Israeli office in Tehran was bigger than any Arab embassy. Iranian oil was exported directly to South Africa and Israel. The shah had this complex about the Arabs; he could not forget that he is of Aryan origin and that Muslim Arabs conquered Persia.

The Iraqi official concluded: All this is well known. There is also the corruption in the government, bribery and nepotism. But does this mean that the only way to punish the shah is by dethroning him, that the regime can only be improved by a coup d'etat against the shah and his dynasty?

I said: What then?

The Iraqi official's answer was as though he was reading from an open book in front of him: Why don't they amend the Iranian Constitution to make it compatible with the spirit of the modern age and thus safeguard liberties? Why doesn't the shah turn into a mere sovereign who reigns but does not rule and thus return to the country?

I said: But to the man in the street in Iran, the return of the shah will be like the return of death.

He said laughingly: The entire situation awaits the emergence of another General Zahedi who can quickly settle the issue. This will only take place after the streets of Iran are flooded with blood and after the country has gone through the woes of a civil war. It is then that all Iranians will be forced to look for a savior, any savior.

The Iraqi official concluded: This is the plan as they agreed upon. [sentence as published] As for the unexpected surprises, only God knows of them.

SYRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES; MESSAGE TO KING HUSAYN

JN061209 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Amman at noon today on a brief visit to Jordan. During the visit, Khaddam will convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The message deals with the situation in the area. Khaddam will also hold talks as part of the exchange of views regarding the various issues which concern the two fraternal countries.

Khaddam was received at Amman Airport by Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the Syrian ambassador in Amman.

KING HUSAYN SPEAKS ON PROPHET'S BIRTHDAY

JN081644 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1406 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Speech by King Husayn at the ceremony marking Prophet Muhammad's birthday held at the Palace of Culture in Amman--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, may peace and blessings of God be upon the Prophet, his family and followers. Brothers and sisters, oh faithful: I am pleased and proud to be with you on this great annual occasion in which we stand reverently to learn the lesson and renew the pledge to uphold the principles of the great message. [passage omitted]

In today's world, where the trends of materialism and atheism and the doctrines of destruction and negativism are casting their dark shadow on human society and are spreading the climate of hatred among the factions of nations or on the level of international relations in this threatened world, mankind is dutybound to once again contemplate the heavenly message and to search in it for ammunition to help it stand fast and rejuvenate it so as to preserve man's dignity and freedom in this life.

The Arab nation, which constitutes a sensitive part of this world and is facing the challenges of the age and the forces of decadence and which has the resources and wealth to make it a target for the greed of its enemies, is called upon more than anyone else to make faith the basis of its national awakening.

This Jordanian homeland was established on the principles of the great Arab revolution which, unlike other false revolutions, has not forgotten the source of its spiritual fulfillment and moral values. It was a revolution steeped in Arab Islamic culture, a revolution characterized by well-being, chivalry and devotion. Jordan grew up in that spirit. It built its awakening and fought the invader enemy with that spirit. Jordan's entire being, sentiments and determination are linked with historical loyalty to Jerusalem; Jerusalem to which the Prophet came on the night of the ascension; Jerusalem in which the Caliph 'Umar prayed and received its key; Jerusalem whose battle was fought heroically by Salah ad-Din.

Jordan raised the banner of Islamic heritage and spiritual values when our entire area was threatened by trends of negative violence and alien doctrines, which disavowed the reality, values and history of our nation. Jordan built its social and economic progress on the conviction that progress cannot be separated from faith, love, social unity and good values.

Brothers, our nation needs a comprehensive intellectual and spiritual awakening which will control its march and guide its steps on the path of industrial, material and scientific progress. Therefore, Islamic thought is called upon today, more than at any time before in this modern age, to revitalize itself and to release its creative powers. To be able to play its role in developing Arab life in the fields of reconstruction and development and in contributing toward improving the climate of peace and freedom in our contemporary world, Islamic thought must be able to retain its genuineness and purity and, at the same time, keep in step with modern life and comprehend the great developments in the arts and sciences.

This awakening requires a great effort which can only be undertaken by competent intellectual institutions, enlightened minds and faithful souls which are confident of their faith and trustfulness. This spiritual and intellectual awakening is not only a historical necessity but also a must for all Muslims in this age in which they are facing the world and the future. Muslims must face the world and interact with it in confidence and with an open mind.

Citizens, brother faithfuls: This great occasion is also an opportune moment to take stock of our position and to assess our achievements. Thank God, our country has achieved a great deal on the path of reconstruction and development and in the material and moral fields. It has also taken tangible steps toward achieving social justice and the establishment of institutions guaranteeing the principle of consultation and public participation in the running of government affairs. All these steps are inspired by our faith and immortal legacy. But there are vast scopes yet to be covered in all these fields in order to complete the building of a fair and balanced society in which material and spiritual forces interact. I am fully confident that our people have the resolve and the faith to protect the march and to accomplish more achievements in an atmosphere of stability, constructive dialog and social and spiritual unity.

May God grant us all success and guide our steps toward well-being and salvation, for He is our master and supporter. Peace be with you.

ADF ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON EXPLOSION IN BEIRUT

NC081336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[8 February communique issued by the Arab Deterrent Forces--ADF--Command]

[Text] At 1140 today, a charge went off on the main road between Al-Mukallis Circle and Al-Mansuriyah. The remains of the wire which detonated the charge was found trailing in the direction of the Beirut River Valley. The military expert estimated the weight of the charge at 10 kilograms of TNT. The explosion caused significant losses. A military vehicle was damaged slightly but could still be run.

At 1230 today, an ADF soldier was wounded by sudden sniper fire near Mar Mikha'il Church in Ash-Shiyah area, which was recently calm. At 1315 the ADF returned fire against the snipers' positions and destroyed them.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS BEIRUT EXPLOSION

NC081340 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] At 1140 today an explosion took place in a Syrian truck on Al-Mukallis Road. As a result traffic came to a standstill and bursts of gunfire were fired in every direction. According to initial reports, two persons in the truck were hit by the explosion. Investigations are underway to find out the cause of the explosion.

Intermittent explosions were heard in the southern surburb this afternoon. It transpired that they were caused when RPG projectiles were fired from Mar Mikhayil-al-Madi quarter in Ash-Shiyah in the direction of the flour mills and the post office. There is no information so far about the casualties.

Meanwhile, sniping continued in As-Sayfi, Al-Kayyal and Empire areas. Internal security patrols insured that traffic continued to flow on the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge between At-Tabariz and Al-Qantari areas. Traffic was relatively light on the bridge.

A report from the north indicates that there were strikes in schools in that area this morning. The strikers demanded that the northerners who have been detained by other northerners be set free.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS SNIPING IN BEIRUT

NC090720 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 9 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Here is a report on the security situation in Beirut and its suburbs: Firing lessened this morning on all the traditional combat lines. Throughout yesterday and up to midnight last night, these lines were the scene of shelling, sniping and sporadic explosions, particularly on the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge, where sniping was renewed in the evening. Consequently, traffic on the bridge came to a halt. During the sniping, four vehicles were hit but there were no casualties among their occupants.

Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman were forced to stay very late in Government House during the day because of sniping on the roads on which they usually travel.

[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 1130 GMT on 8 February notes that "Calm prevailed today in the capital and its suburbs and there were no incidents of security breaches. However, caution prevailed in the traditional areas. As regards traffic movement, cars are now using the Fu'ad Shihab Bridge, particularly since permanent security checkpoints have been set up in Al-Quntari and at the end of Spears Street. Roadblocks have been removed in the At-Tabariz area and mobile patrols are being deployed along the bridge street."

NORTHERN GOVERNOR SAYS KIDNAPED PERSONS SAFE

NC081250 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] The governor of northern Lebanon, Iskandar Ghibril, has denied that the body of one of the 17 kidnaped persons has been found and handed over to his family. He said that recent contacts indicate that the kidnap victims are safe and that efforts are continuing at the highest level and by all means to secure their release. The governor praised the citizens for their awareness in not reacting negatively despite the atmosphere of resentment which prevails in Tripoli and its outskirts.

[(Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon at 0615 MGT on 9 February reports that "contacts are continuing concerning some persons who were kidnaped in the north in response to the kidnaping of other persons. Meanwhile, it has been reported that some kidnaped persons were released before nightfall yesterday. In the south, concern reigns in the border area, particularly in the wake of the threats made by Maj Sa'd Haddad at a press conference. Major Haddad threatened to shell some 2,000 fedayeen who have penetrated the UNIFIL operations area to the border villages."]

VOL: FOUR SYRIAN NATIONALISTS KIDNAPED IN AMYUN

NC081816 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] A cable has just been received which appears to have come from Al-Kurah. The cable says that four members of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party have been kidnaped in Amyun and taken to an unidentified location. The cable adds that negotiations are taking place on various levels to persuade the kidnapers to release their hostages, whose fate remains unknown.

PRESIDENT TITO ARRIVES ON OFFICIAL VISIT 8 FEB

JN081316 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpts] Damascus--President Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia arrived here today from Baghdad heading a delegation on an official and friendly visit to Syria to last several days. President Hafiz al-Asad [illegible] those who met President Tito upon his arrival at Damascus International Airport.

Al-Asad Gives Dinner for Tito

LD082339 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2034 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Damascus--Hafiz al-Asad, president of Syria, tonight gave a formal dinner at the government palace in honor of Josip Broz Tito, president of the republic. The formal dinner, which was held in a very cordial and friendly atmosphere, was attended by Branko Mikulic, chairman of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; Dobrivoje Vidic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia; Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary for foreign affairs; Sukrija Uzunovic, member of the Federal Executive Council; Borislav Badurina, chief of Cabinet of the president of the republic; Budimir Loncar, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs; Dmitar Janevski, SFRY ambassador to Syria; Lt Col Gen Janko Susnjar and other personalities of the official entourage of the president of the republic.

From the Syrian side, the dinner was attended by Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi, prime minister; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Al-Karim Adi, minister of state for foreign affairs; 'Abdullah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; and members of the government and other distinguished guests.

Al-Asad Banquet Speech

JN082030 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Speech by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad at banquet hosted in honor of Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito in Damascus on 8 February--read by announcer]

[Text] Respected President Josip Broz Tito, members of the delegation of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; gentlemen:

On behalf of our people and party and in my own name I extend to you a heartfelt welcome. It gives us great pleasure to receive President Tito--the sincere friend of our people and nation who is highly esteemed by the sons of the Syrian people; the leader of friendly Yugoslavia; and the prominent leader of nonalinement, which is struggling for the causes of peoples. I should refer to your great efforts in promoting bilateral cooperative relations in various fields to its present high standard and in consolidating the ties of friendship between our two peoples.

These ties have been strengthened satisfactorily in the service of the mutual interests of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, thus bolstering the common struggle of our people. Along with the development of bilateral relations, our countries are linked through affiliation with the nonalined movement. Both Syria and Yugoslavia have greatly contributed to strengthening this movement and realizing its objectives.

We owe it to Yugoslavia to gratefully assert that under the leadership of President Tito, it has adopted a principled stand regarding the Israeli aggression against the Arab land and the usurpation of the Palestinian people's rights. It has expressed its firm support for Arab rights in word and deed in the United Nations, the nonalined movement and on various occasions.

In its firm adoption of this stand, Yugoslavia's attitude is in harmony with its principles and with the resolutions of the nonalined movement, to which Yugoslavia has greatly contributed. These resolutions affirm a clear concept of peace in the Middle East--a concept based on ending aggression through Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and recognition of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people.

We recall with appreciation President Tito's affirmation during his last visit to Damascus in February 1974 when he said that the basic condition for a just and lasting solution in this area is the immediate Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in the 1967 war and the guaranteeing of the national legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to the establishment of their own state. Without the direct and equal participation of the representatives of the Palestinian people, a comprehensive and just solution to the Middle East crisis cannot be reached.

In our opinion, this clear and principled stand constitutes the sound basis on which a just peace can be established.

You are aware that what is preventing the realization of such a peace is Israel's continued aggression epitomized in occupation, usurpation of rights and dispersal of the Arabs. As long as Israel persist in continuing its aggression, any discussions on its part about peace are mere words that conceal far from peaceful intentions.

Mr President, you recall that following the October War there were serious efforts to bring about peace in our area based on UN resolutions--efforts that, with an almost unanimous international blessing, took into consideration the real components of peace. However, while these efforts were being exerted, Israel continued to stall and evade peace because of its firm design of expansion on Arab land at the expense of Arab rights. It continued to stall until it had the opportunity to try and realize its design through the Camp David agreements.

If the parties to the Camp David agreements call these agreements a framework for peace, the significance is not in this nomenclature but in these agreements' conditions, which constitute a capitulation to the will of expansion and aggression. This is confirmed daily by Israel's stands and by the statements and deeds of its leaders that indicate an insistence on not withdrawing from all the occupied Arab territories, ignoring the rights of the Palestinian people and continuing to establish settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

Israel clings to maneuvering tactics and methods of deception. However, we refuse to be the victim of deception. Hence we say that these agreements have alienated peace from the area, have created new obstacles on the road to peace instead of surmounting the existing difficulties, and have almost completely closed the door to political action for peace instead of opening the doors that had been closed earlier.

We affirm without hesitation our determination to regain our rights and resist and defeat aggression. Whoever thinks otherwise lives an illusion.

While resisting aggression, however, we affirm that peace is our objective--the peace of justice, peace which gives rights to their rightful owners, safeguards dignity and can continue and last. Such a peace cannot be realized by begging because this is tantamount to capitulation dressed in the robes of peace.

Such a peace cannot be achieved through maneuvering tactics and deception but through a clear and straightforward road that leads to the removal of aggression and its manifestations.

A serious search for peace requires that complications be lessened, not increased. In the wake of the new complications that have beset the situation, it is clear that the course that should be adopted in order not to block political action for peace is to return the issue to a sounder framework: the United Nations. The United Nations is more capable and better qualified to tackle the issue. It has the power to pass resolutions and interpret them. The continued moving of matters as they now are means the sealing off of doors before the chances of peace.

In our struggle for our just cause, we rely upon our intrinsic power, which we seek to strengthen by mobilizing all the potentials of our nation, by unifying its stands and by strengthening its solidarity to combat aggression and resist all attempts at liquidation and capitulation. We also rely on the backing of our friends who support us proceeding from militant ties that bring us together in the continued common struggle against injustice, exploitation and aggression, and for the realization of liberty and justice for all the peoples in the world.

At this juncture, I should note the importance of the nonaligned movement and the support we are getting from it in our just struggle. We look forward to a bigger role for the nonaligned movement, not only for the sake of peace in this region but also for peace everywhere. The performance of this role is in the interest of mankind. It is obvious that the growth and success of this role depends on the member states' respect for the principles of the movement and commitment to the resolutions of its conferences. Deviation from these principles and resolutions is a sure impediment to the advancement and success of the movement and a factor of regression that performs a dangerous undermining role if it comes from the movement.

Respected President, our personal meetings and the continued consultations between our governments have always proven important and useful. Undoubtedly, our present meeting will be a fresh confirmation of this fact. I am confident that this meeting will further strengthen Syrian-Yugoslav relations. I ask you to convey our people's and my own greetings to the peoples of Yugoslavia, whose friendship we are proud of and whose successes on the road to progress and prosperity we are following.

I reiterate my warm welcome to the esteemed friend, President Josip Broz Tito, wishing him continued good health and long life. Once again, I welcome the members of the Yugoslav delegation and express my wishes of continued good health and happiness.

Tito Banquet Speech

JN082050 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Speech by Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito at a dinner banquet given in his honor by President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus on 8 February--read by announcer]

[Text] Mr President, dear guests: We thank you very much for the heartfelt expressions of welcome, which we regard as a new affirmation of the relations of friendship existing between our two nonaligned countries. I am confident that this visit will contribute to the consolidation of these relations.

We attach great importance to proceeding toward expanding the scope of Yugoslav-Syrian cooperation. We believe that the results and experiences in this field will enable us to move forward quickly in the interest of both sides.

The world today, including our movement--the nonaligned movement--is facing very complicated problems, several of which have direct implications of danger to peace and security. The hotbeds of crises in the world; the continuation of the arms race; the very modest results achieved in the field of establishing a new international economic order--these are matters of grave concern.

Naturally, we pay special attention to the efforts to find a just solution to the Middle East crisis, the implications of which do not affect the peoples of this area only but the entire international community.

Yugoslavia firmly upholds the principles approved by the nonaligned countries and by the United Nations. Yugoslavia is constantly seeking a just, durable and comprehensive solution because only this can provide peace and security for all the peoples of this area and open the way for the possibility of establishing peaceful cooperation. Therefore, our position toward any initiative to resolve the crisis depends primarily on the extent to which the initiative can actually lead to the achievement of the basic goal--a comprehensive solution. In addition to firmness and resolution, realism can sometimes require reasonable and tangible tactics in pursuing this goal. However, what is important is that the goal and its essence should not at any time be questionable.

Naturally, what is meant by a comprehensive and just solution is Israel's full and prompt withdrawal from all the Arab areas occupied in 1967 and afterwards; the security of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination and the establishment of their state; and the recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

To achieve these goals it is very important to reach understanding and to coordinate activities among the Arab states.

We have sincerely welcomed the Syrian-Iraqi rapprochement because we have always attached great importance to comprehensive Arab solidarity and to the unity of Arab ranks. Regrettably, the differences and disputes among the nonaligned countries continue to exist in the various parts of the world. It is time to begin resolving the disputes by peaceful means, whether they were inherited or are recent. All countries should adhere to this regardless of their size or their social, political and ideological affiliation. If we in the nonaligned movement fail to apply our own principles and those of the UN Charter to our mutual relations, we would be risking our prestige and weakening the chances of success in settling major international problems on which the fate of all of us depends. Experience has proven that every dispute of this sort carries with it the implications of a direct danger of dictating solutions from abroad and getting involved in the disputes and competition between the two world power blocs. This inevitably threatens the vital national interests of the disputing countries and the security of the world.

I would like to point out on this occasion the extreme significance of the unified activity of the nonaligned countries. I know the extent of the concern you personally are taking on this question. The unified activity of the nonaligned countries, proceeding from the adopted principles and positions, has enabled us to assert our movement as an independent one in the international arena outside the sphere of the power blocs. This movement has made an essential contribution to curbing the dangers threatening peace and to searching for generally accepted solutions to difficult international problems.

In the complicated situation in which the power blocs cannot find a satisfactory answer to the difficult questions of independence, security, development and other questions, the nonaligned movement, which has unified aspirations, has become an objective necessity for today's world.

This nonalined movement is a support for national independence and security and is an assertiveness of all its members on the international level. Because of all this, any attempt to weaken the unified activity of the nonalined, regardless of where it comes from and regardless of its form, would represent realistic dangers by causing fluctuations in international relations. Thus, the opportunity would become ripe for consolidating the policy of the power blocs and the influence and competition between them, with all the very negative effects on peace, security and progress in the world. Therefore, those who might embark on such attempts must bear a great responsibility because they are acting with shortsighted motives.

I believe that the forthcoming nonalined summit conference must pay special attention to applying principles of nonalinement that lead to the consolidation of the independence of each country and refrain from interference in the domestic affairs of others as well as mutual respect for the right of sovereignty. This will enable the nonalined movement, as an independent factor in the world outside the sphere of the power blocs, to carry out a unified activity with further success and to fully implement the policy approved in the nonalined meetings held so far for the sake of serving peace, security, equal and democratic cooperation and general progress among all countries.

I am confident that the nonalined countries will always be able to find a way to place the supreme goals of nonalinement above all other considerations.

I again would like to express my gratitude for our meeting and the friendly talks, which I am confident will be fruitful. I greet President Hafiz al-Asad and the Syrian friends attending. I also hail the continued and comprehensive development of friendship and cooperation between Yugoslavia and Syria, wishing prosperity for the Syrian people and success for the policy of nonalinement in building a more just and happier world.

Tito, Al-Asad Hold Talks

LD091126 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0902 GMT 9 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 9 (TANJUG)--Yugoslav President Tito and Syrian President al-Asad met for the first session of their talks in Damascus yesterday evening. The talks were held in a very cordial atmosphere, based on mutual understanding and trust.

The talks, it is learned, primarily dealt with current aspects of the situation in the Near and Middle East and other crisis situations in the world. The two presidents exchanged views on the present and forthcoming nonalined movement activities, as well as some questions of bilateral relations.

President Hafiz al-Asad informed President Tito about the internal development of his country, stressing the internal stability and unity of Syria.

Foreign Ministers Meet

JN090816 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Josip Vrhovec, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs. During the meeting Khaddam explained Syria's firm and principled stand based on a just and comprehensive solution and the grave nature of separate agreements. They exchanged viewpoints on the situation in the Arab area and on international issues.

Their viewpoints were in agreement on the bases of a just solution to the Middle East issue. Both sides will resume their meeting on Friday to complete their discussions.

Party Officials Meet

JN090802 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] This evening Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Ba'th Party, and Comrade Dr Fawwaz Sayyagh, head of the Foreign Relations Office, visited Branko Mikulic, League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] Central Committee Presidium chairman, in his residence. Their discussion dealt with the friendly and comradely relations between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the LCY and with Syrian-Yugoslav relations.

It was agreed at the meeting to hold a working session Friday evening to discuss issues of common interest, means of developing relations to serve the general objectives of the struggle waged by both parties and peoples and ways of strengthening their joint relations and joint march.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD URGES CLEMENCY FOR BHUTTO

JN081336 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, summoned the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Damascus today and handed him a letter from President Hafiz al-Asad to Pakistani President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq. In this letter President al-Asad expresses his concern and that of the Syrian Arab people over Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's predicament and appeals to the Pakistani president to use his right of clemency to save the life of Mr Bhutto, who has rendered great services to his country and whose honorable stands on the Arab cause are well known to everyone.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS HOME FROM JORDAN

JN062128 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Damascus--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, returned to Damascus this evening following a brief visit to Jordan. During the visit, he met with His Majesty King Husayn and handed him a message from President Hafiz al-Asad on the latest developments in the general Arab situation and issues of common interest to both countries. The meeting was attended by Mudar Badran, Jordanian prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Court. Khaddam was seen off by 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Court; Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs; and the Syrian ambassador in Amman.

AL-ASAD ENDORSES RECORD STATE BUDGET FOR 1979

JN080650 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has issued Decree No 2 of 1979 endorsing the 1979 state budget, which amounts to 22.641 billion Syrian pounds, a figure unprecedented in the country's history. This budget clearly shows the country's interest in development and in defense affairs, given the circumstances through which the Arab area is passing.

ALGERIA

INTERIOR MINISTER ANNOUNCES CHADLI BENDJEDID'S ELECTION

LD082043 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Once again, and as was the case in all historic circumstances and great events, the Algerian people have manifested their great maturity and awareness, and their deep consciousness of the magnitude of their responsibility, and the extent of (?the need for) revolutionary continuity which means the consolidation of cohesiveness among all the basic forces of the revolution, and the unification of ranks in an atmosphere of vigilance and general mobilization, with a view to guaranteeing continuity and deepening its gains.

By massively taking part in the important national event experienced by our country yesterday for the election of the FLN candidate for the presidency of the republic--namely, the militant Chadli Bendjedid--the Algerian people stressed beyond any doubt the strength and solidity of our revolution. At the same time, the Algerian people dealt a fresh blow to all plotters against this revolution, and those who have doubts about the soundness of its principles and the greatness of its objectives.

In this context, brother Mohamed Benahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and interior minister, held a press conference at 1730 this afternoon at the government palace in the presence of Zeineddine Fetalli, secretary general of the Interior Ministry, Zein Chakhmana, director general of organization at the same ministry, and national and international newsmen. In the press conference brother Abdelghani gave the final and official results of the presidential election held yesterday throughout the various regions of the republic, and also among our emigrant workers to elect as president of the republic the militant Chadli Bendjedid.

At the national level the turnout reached 97.94 percent. The number of those who voted yes reached 94.25 percent. These are the details of the results of the votes as given by brother Abdelghani:

[Begin recording] [passage indistinct] In observance of Article 12 of the decree dated 21 January 1979 [words indistinct] for the election of the president of the republic, and after perusing the [words indistinct] dated 8 January 1979 [words indistinct] the results of the election are:

National territory: electors [passage indistinct] abroad: [words indistinct] no: 12,528; yes: 302,579; percentage for abroad: 94.86.

Consequently, we officially announce the election of the secretary general of the FLN, Chadli Bendjedid, as president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. [end recording]

Brother Mohamed Benahmed Abdelghani then announced that the president-elect would be sworn in tomorrow in accordance with Article 109 of the Constitution, which stipulates that the president of the republic takes his post within a week of his election.

The member of the Political Bureau and interior minister also announced that the president of the republic would begin his consultations and contacts with the members of the Political Bureau and of the government starting this Saturday with a view to forming the new Cabinet.

At the end of his address, brother Mohamed Benahmed Abdelghani announced that the elections for the renewal of the popular councils of municipalities and governorates due to be held in February 1979 had been postponed until next April or May.

JANA REPORTS INTERVIEW WITH CHADLI BENDJEDID

LD081136 Tripoli JANA in English 0839 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 8 February, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The secretary-general of the National Liberation Front Party, Chadli Bendjedid, who is nominated for the presidency of the Algerian Republic, made a statement to the Algerian news agency in which he asserted the deep political maturity that the Algerian people enjoy and the strength of the political leadership which has enabled it, despite vicious campaigns and false propaganda, to maintain the standard of its historic responsibility.

Regarding a question about the concept of the continuity of the revolution, the secretary-general of the party affirmed that the continuity of the revolution means the implementation of the National Charter, according to both its text and spirit. The first step, he said, is choosing men who have achieved the qualifications set by the charter. For, as it is stated, socialism cannot be practised except by efficient, honest and committed socialists.

Bendjedid described the period recently experienced by the Algerian people as most difficult, but it has also shown that the Algerian people are as great in their loyalty as they were great in their struggle. He said "It has also confirmed the deep political maturity of the Algerian people which has enabled them to overcome the plight, proving anew their consciousness and cultural heritage. It is clear proof of the people's understanding of the meaning of loyalty to principles and to martyrs, which was a blow to those who underestimated the Algerian people and did not truly appreciate them."

He added that all the country's establishments have fully undertaken their tasks within the framework of legitimacy. "This was a new indication that under the leadership of the late President Houari Boumediene, Algeria has succeeded in building a [word indistinct] country that can go on despite events. This is a great achievement of the revolution accomplishments which passed through the difficult period of Algeria successfully."

Chadli Bendjedid went on to say, "In spite of the vicious and evil propaganda, the political leadership has demonstrated its capability to be equal to the historical responsibility. Thus even in the face of the difficult task, loyalty has enabled the promise to be kept. The fourth meeting of the National Liberation Front Party was held which was the conference of revolutionary continuity and national unity. This was a true implementation of the motto heralded, the practice of the National Charter and loyalty to President Boumediene."

Bendjedid explained that the basic forces of the revolution have taken their part fully, which indicates that these essential forces of workers, peasants, strugglers, soldiers, women, and youth are themselves the basic security for the continuity of the revolution and a safeguard of its achievements.

He went on to say that the ideology of the Algerian revolution stems from its long course which resulted in the National Charter, independence and the continuation of struggle.

We all recall the talks on the National Charter endorsed by the people in 1976. By the continuity of the revolution we mean the completion of a radical agricultural transformation as well as an industrial revolution to win the battle of production as work is everyman's right, honour and duty.

It also means the achievement of a cultural revolution in the full sense of the word so that a new society could be built, a society where prosperity, justice, equality and equal opportunities prevail and where the right man is placed in the right position. The continuity of the revolution is ensuring a home for every citizen, a school desk for every pupil and medical treatment for the sick. Therefore, this generation will be enabled to hand over the benefits of the revolution to the next generation which by then would have been permeated with the spirit of the November revolution. This way we shall be loyal to the martyrs of that revolution.

Moreover, the continuity of the revolution is self-criticism, giving us the chance of correcting our mistakes, advoiding any deviation and taking necessary measures to take advantage of constructive criticism. By it we confirm our Muslim Arab heritage and re-affirm--as a basic revolutionary choice--our commitment to just issues and non-alignment. In other words we are eager to keep our promise to implement the National Charter, which is the policy drawn up by the late President Houari Boumediene. It is his course we shall follow in line with our people's will.

Mr. Bendjedid said that the independence of any state does not mean science and construction but it is a deep concept encompassing different facts of life. There is no independence without economic independence which in turn has no security without financial independence.

He pointed out that one of the major securities for financial independence lies in having production exceed consumption because economy is not merely technical jargon used by experts but it is a daily reality lived by each citizen.

LIBYA

CSSR'S STROUGAL TALKS OF FRANK, OBJECTIVE MEETINGS

LD081904 Tripoli JANA in English 1438 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Feb, JANA--The prime minister of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Lubomir Strougal, left Tripoli yesterday evening after ending this three-day visit to the Jamahiriyah.

There was an official send off for Strougal at Tripoli International Airport, headed by staff Major 'Abd as-Salaam Ahmad Jallud. Present were some of the secretaries, the under secretary of the Foreign Secretariat, directors of departments, director of protocol at the Foreign Secretariat, heads of foreign missions accredited to Jamahiriyah, and the Czech ambassador to Jamahiriyah.

The Czech prime minister gave a statement to a JANA correspondent in which he expressed his pleasure at the positive results achieved by his visit to Jamahiriyah. He said, "We have held negotiations in Jamahiriyah dealing with matters of common interest."

He pointed out that these negotiations were characterized by frankness and objectivity in strengthening bilateral cooperation in the light of the results achieved by the historic visit of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution and secretary-general of the General People's Congress to Prague last year. He said: "We have agreed to carefully implement what Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and President Gustav Husak had agreed upon."

Strougal described the Libyan Arab-Czech relations as excellent and that the two sides will work towards strengthening these relations for what serves the two friendly people, the Arab cause and the liberation causes in the world. He made clear that the continuous meetings of the two sides will ensue with further positive results.

Concerning a question about the defeatist stands and capitulatory initiatives of the defeated Egyptian president, Strougal said: "We denounce and strongly condemn these stands. The Egyptian president could not have done worse than this." Strougal added, "We completely support the progressive Arab countries and have great hopes in the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front."

At the end of his statement, the Czech prime minister stressed that his country supports the just cause of the Palestinian people. He said, "We believe that this cause will triumph and we are prepared to offer all aid to the Palestinian Arab people in their struggle against Zionism."

AL-QAHDHDAFI URGES NYERERE TO WITHDRAW TROOPS FROM UGANDA

LD081932 Tripoli JANA in English 1750 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, 8 Feb, JANA--The leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution and secretary-general of the General People's Congress, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, sent a message to the Tanzanian President Dr. Julius Nyerere, urging him to withdraw his troops from Uganda territories to avoid any possible deterioration in the situation between Tanzania and Uganda.

Uganda has withdrawn its troops from parts of Tanzanian territories as a result of the efforts made by the Jamahiriyah to solve the dispute between the two countries and which were heeded by the Uganda president.

MAURITANIA

RULING MILITARY COMMITTEE SANCTIONS PROGOVERNMENT MARCHES

LD090030 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Here is a statement issued by the Military Committee for National Recovery: The Military Committee for National Recovery held a meeting on 6-7 February under the chairmanship of Col Moustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck, the committee's chairman and head of the government.

During the meeting, he submitted a review on foreign and domestic issues. In light of this review, the committee records with satisfaction the encouraging results of the diplomacy of peace and national recovery.

The committee decided to continue its efforts until the achievement of these two tasks which occupy first priority.

As part of the campaign to combat the poisonous propaganda, public and mass rallies will be held tomorrow, Friday, 9 February in Nouakchott. These rallies will be held under the supervision of the Military Committee for National Recovery and in the presence of members of the government. The people are hereby invited to participate in these rallies.

The Military Committee for National Recovery approved the organization by elementary and secondary students of a march in support of national unity. This march took place this afternoon.

MOROCCO

MAP: PRESSMEN VISIT SCENE OF TAN-TAN CONFRONTATION

LD081414 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tan-Tan--A delegation of pressmen, representing national and international media, arrived at Tan-Tan airport yesterday morning, in southern Morocco.

On this occasion the pressmen were able to learn the details of the aggression which Tan-Tan had been subjected to and the way in which this aggression took place.

According to initial information, there were 12 companies of aggressors and each company was made up of between 100 to 120 men. It is estimated that about 100 of the enemy's vehicles were destroyed and between 160 and 200 of the enemy were killed.

On the other hand this aggression resulted in the death of 8 civilians and the wounding of 9 others, and the death of 4 Moroccan soldiers and the wounding of 14 others. Thirteen women were kidnaped by the aggressors.

Representatives of the national and foreign press went to the scene of the confrontation between members of our heroic armed forces and the aggressors. The pressmen were able to see the wreckage of the enemy's vehicles and the astonishingly sophisticated weapons left behind by the fleeing enemy.

HASSAN ASKS ZIAUL HAQ TO COMMUTE BHUTTO DEATH SENTENCE

LD081550 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Rabat, Feb. 8 (MAP)--King Hassan of Morocco addressed here Wednesday a message to Ziaul Haq, the Pakistani chief of state, in which the sovereign asked him on behalf of the Islamic fraternity and relations uniting the peoples of Morocco and Pakistan, to commute the Pakistani former Prime Minister Ali Bhutto's death sentence because of the great services he rendered to the Arab and Islamic cause.

SUDAN

OFFICIAL ON RESULTS OF NUMAYRI VISIT TO RIYADH

LD090810 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Dr Baha ad-Din Muhammad Idris, Sudanese minister of state for presidential affairs, has stated that the visit of President Ja'far Numayri to the kingdom was successful and realized its aims.

He stated that the talks covered bilateral issues of interest to the kingdom and Sudan, the situation in the Middle East and the present Arab state of affairs within the framework of coordination between the two fraternal countries [words indistinct] their commitments to the Arab and Islamic nation's issues.

FRENCH MINISTRY OFFICIAL STERN LEAVES FOLLOWING VISIT

JN041539 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 4 February--Oliver Stern, secretary of state at the French Foreign Ministery, left Khartoum this afternoon after a visit of several days to Sudan. During the visit he delivered a message from French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to President Numayri and held talks with the Sudanese officials on issues of common interest as wellas on Arab and African affairs.

Stern held a press conference this morning that dealt with a number of international issues.

Stern Press Conference

JN041540 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1448 GMT 4 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 4 February--In a press conference he held here today, Oliver Stern, secretary of state at the French Foreign Ministry, affirmed that France has no stake in the Western Sahara issue and believes that Sudan's efforts--since Sudan is chairman of the Organization of African Unity--could result in a solution for this issue through negotiations among the parties to the dispute by means of the committee formed by President Numayri to discuss the issue.

The French secretary also pointed out that his country supports the UN Security Council resolution on elections in Namibia and expressed his country's desire that the elections in Namibia and Rhodesia will be held in a democratic manner, guaranteeing freedom and peace in the southern part of the African Continent.

Regarding the Middle East issue, Stern explained that France believes that any step toward the achievement of peace in the region is positive. He was thus referring to his country's support for UN Security Council Resolution 242 on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, giving the Palestinian people their right to self-determination and to the establishment of their own state.

The French secretary described Numayri's vist to France in 1976 as a step in bolstering Sudanese-French relations. He said that the Sudanese and French sides have agreed to take positive and practical steps to further advance these relations.

Regarding the Arab and African issues, the secretary explained that the French policy is currently based on broadening its cooperation with all countries regardless of their location. He praised Sudan's prudent policy and its role in the African Continent and the Arab region of seeking sound solutions for regional disputes.

Regarding the Horn of Africa, the French official said that his talks with the Sudanese officials on the Horn of Africa affirm that the two sides are agreed that a conference should be held, to which all parties are invited, in order to develop a peace plan within the framework of the negotiations as a final solution for the issue.

Regarding Chad, the French secretary said that France supports the Sudanese viewpoints and efforts to achieve reconciliation and national unity in Chad. He pointed out that France has no stake in the Western Sahara issue and that Sudan's efforts in its capacity as chairman of the Organization of African Unity could find a solution for the issue through negotiation.

TRIPOLI REPORTS EGYPTIAN TROOPS ON SUDAN'S LIBYAN BORDER

LD081847 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Recent reports speak about the Egyptian military presence in Sudan where there are 7,200 Egyptian soldiers along the eastern front in the areas of (Kisla), (Al-Qadarif) and (An-Nishqah); and 2,000 Egyptian soldiers in Port Sudan, 2,800 paratroopers in Khartoum, and 5,000 soldiers in western Sudan along the common borders with the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Fighter planes and a number of Egyptian armored vehicles and SA-6 and SA-7 missiles belonging to the Egyptian armed forces are also present along the common frontiers between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and Sudan.

On the domestic political front, Sudan is experiencing serious deterioration where it is noted that the process of reconciliation has stopped altogether because of the obstacles placed by the ruling regime there.

TUNISIA

BOURGUIBA SENDS GREETINGS TO ALGERIA'S BENDJEDID

LD090132 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] President Habib Bourguiba has sent to Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the following cable:

On the occasion of your election as president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, I have the pleasure to express to you on my behalf and on behalf of the Tunisian Government and people sincerest and finest wishes. As I express to you my fraternal wishes for success in fulfilling your sublime mission at the head of the state and party, it pleases me to assure you that we will not spare any effort toward bolstering the genuine existing fraternal relations between our two fraternal peoples and in building the basis of fruitful cooperation between our two countries. I am confident that the lofty principles on which the policy of our two countries are based will remain a foundation for our joint action for the happiness of our two peoples and for the construction of the edifice of our greater Arab Maghreb and for the realization of the aspirations of our Arab and Islamic nation in glory and triumph. I beseech God to grant you the best of health and happiness and to grant us prosperity and success in all that is good.

8 FEBRUARY CABINET SESSION DISCUSSES PEACE TALKS, ECONOMY

TA081315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The prime minister today briefed the Cabinet on the letter he received from President Carter with an invitation for a foreign ministers' conference at Camp David. The talks are due to begin in about 2 weeks.

The Cabinet devoted the better part of the meeting to discussing the economy and decided to adopt the finance minister's plan to curb inflation. It was decided that the subject of housing and mortgages would be discussed separately at another time.

Our correspondent Gid'on Selinger says that the resolutions were adopted without opposition and only one minister, the minister of energy and infrastructure, abstained. It was also decided to co-opt the minister for social betterment to the ministerial team that has been authorized to raise the prices of subsidized products. At the end of the meeting, the finance minister promised that the citizens will not feel the impact of the resolutions that had been adopted today. The education minister explained that although he intended to vote against the budget, he eventually decided to agree to a cut in his ministry's budget to contribute to the fight against inflation.

WEIZMAN URGES EXTRAORDINARY STEPS TOWARDS PEACE

TA090519 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Feb 79 TA

[Excerpt] The defense minister recommends that the Cabinet make a genuine effort to give Egypt a positive reply concerning the peace treaty because Israel must pave the way for coexistence with its neighbors in the region. Mr Weizman contends that the crucial moment is approaching and the Cabinet will have to decide whether it wishes to reach an agreement or not. He was speaking last night at the annual meeting of the Aviators' Association.

MINISTER LANDAU COMMENTS ON CURRENT STATE OF PEACE TALKS

TA090653 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 9 Feb 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Excerpt] Hayim Landau, who is appearing in public for the first time since he has been appointed minister of transportation, devoted most of his speech to political issues and stated his credo concerning the political negotiations. A peace treaty with Egypt should be achieved and immediately afterwards we should discuss the nature of the autonomy with Egypt. After we reach an agreement on the latter, the implementation of both agreements should start concurrently. This will prevent suspicions and misunderstandings.

[Landau--begin recording] There are people who say, what is the importance of a clause or a number in a treaty. The most important thing is the spirit and the intentions behind them. But let's listen and believe--I, in any case, do believe what I hear from beyond the border--let's listen to what is being officially stated in Egypt at present. It switches on a danger signal in my mind. My conclusion is that Egypt must yet prove that it is indeed seeking a genuine peace with Israel. [end recording]

MINISTER TAMIR SCORES EGYPTIAN DEMANDS

TA090732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0503 GMT 9 Feb 79 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] Last night Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir was most critical of the fact that 12 days before the resumption of the Camp David conference, Egyptian propagandists claim that Israel is trying to seize control over the Middle East. Minister Tamir, who was speaking at Bet Jabotinsky in Tel Aviv, also said that the five demands which Egypt is insisting on are making the negotiations more difficult. Our correspondent Dan Eshel reports:

Basing himself on the prime minister's statement, Minister Tamir took exception to the Egyptian demands. [Tamir--begin recording] They are emasculating the contents of the peace treaty. The title will read: Peace Treaty; the contents will be devoid of its essence. What it amounts to is that in return for a peace treaty with As-Sadat, he demands not only the evacuation of Sinai, but also the beginning of an Israeli evacuation of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District. He gets peace, the Sinai and the beginning of a withdrawal from Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza District and, according to his opinion, also half of Jerusalem. [end recording]

[Eshel] These demands confront the Israeli Cabinet with a most difficult problem, the justice minister adds. [Tamir--begin recording]...to persevere in the negotiations, do not cut off the thread, not only where substance is concerned, but also--and this is no less important, so that the truth will be clear to the world, that we are interested in the peace treaty--but at the same time will not consent to a treaty made sterile of its contents, not to submit to arm wrenchings, no matter how hard it may be, and to be consistent with the Cabinet resolution that has been adopted unanimously on all these five subjects, as we understood that these were not mere hair splitting pedantries, enjoyable or legalistic formulations, but a translation of substance of the utmost importance. [end recording]

YEDI'OT AHARONOT REPORTS ATHERTON COMMENT ON PEACE

TA091030 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 9 Feb 79 pp 1, 3 TA

[Telegraphed by Ron ben-Yishay, YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent in Washington]

[Excerpt] "The task imposed on us is one of the biggest challenges I can think of," the U.S. special ambassador to the Middle East, Alfred Atherton, said in a talk with YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent in Washington.

"The mission we are trying to fulfill, he said, is to move the Middle East from a state of war to a state of peace and this is a great challenge."

Ambassador Atherton is supervising the work of the "Middle East team" of the U.S. administration.

We asked Atherton: "It is said that you possess 'an Iranian's patience' and that you are prepared to spend long hours in tiring clarifications about every word and letter even if these efforts produce no real outcome in the end. Why?"

Atherton: I view everything I am doing from a historical point of view. When one is dealing with hostility such as that existing in the Middle East, one understands that things cannot be changed overnight. A large part of the important role the United States is playing in the process is to help Israel understand the Arabs... and to help the Arabs understand Israel. I would have naturally preferred that they would do this directly."

"Egypt and Israel now have an opportunity to do so and this is most important. Care should therefore be taken that the dialog continues. Therefore, I will continue with what I am doing as long as the president and the secretary of state ask me to do so."

"I have one hope: I hope that the negotiations will reach their successful conclusion while I still hold my present position."

BEGIN REACTS TO WASHINGTON POST REPORT ON TORTURE

TA091627 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Excerpt] There is no torture technique and the authorities do not torture security detainees. This was said in the name of the government by the justice and prime ministers in reaction to the Washington POST reports about the torture of security detainees in Israel. The justice minister held a press conference during the Cabinet meeting in which he voiced Israel's reaction. Our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi reports: [begin recording]

What infuriated our government? The Washington POST published reports about the torture of prisoners in Israel, reports that were invented by an official in the U.S. consulate in Jerusalem. These works of fiction provided the basis for a report transmitted by the State Department to the Congress about the torture of prisoners in Israel. The Washington POST published the baseless reports in detail, although it mentioned that they were the fruit of the imagination of a consulate official. The prime minister's reaction to this follows:

[Begin] I am astonished by the publication of this report. It is totally baseless. The London SUNDAY TIMES has already published several articles. We have denied this and proved that this is an invention of Israel's adversaries. We wonder how a large paper such as the SUNDAY TIMES in London or the Washington POST can publish evil libels about Israel. This is simply baseless and nonexistent. [end recording]

More on Tamir Reaction

TA081246 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[Text] During the Cabinet meeting Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir emerged for a short time to make a statement on the allegations published by the Washington POST yesterday, which charged we tortured Arab security prisoners in Israel. Tamir described the allegations as utterly false, baseless and libelous. Then he went on:

[Tamir--begin recording] The fact is that we maintain in this country, in the face of very severe provocations, the most liberal and humane attitude pertaining to everything which relates to the Arab population under Israeli control. As a law and a rule and practice, not a single case of torturing or malpractice is being exercised against detainees.

Israel has come to an agreement--Red Cross. The International Red Cross can visit detainees, send their doctor whenever they feel fit and respond to every complaint coming from a prisoner or a detainee. Of course, there is an intentional permanent attempt on behalf of murderers who are held in our hands to smear our country and our way of life. But all the facts can be checked, and should be checked before such wrong statements and allegations are made public.

In the last year, in 1978, 1,287 visits took place by the International Red Cross to visit Arab detainees or prisoners. And only in 6 percent of the cases there were complaints which brought about a thorough investigation by our authorities. All the full details of such investigation were given to the International Red Cross. Every impartial neutral body can check to find out what is truly so. I want to add to it that all in all--at the moment--only 19 suspects, and very dangerous ones, are held in Israel administratively. If you compare the situation of Israel, which is besieged, which is facing murderous attacks on civilians, men, women and children permanently as a system and its reactions--if you compare it to any other country, not only in the East but in the Western world as well--you'll find out that this is the only country where for the last 11 or 12 years, since 1967 when we have occupied the additional territories, not a single execution took place by Israel.

There is no other example in the West. In these circumstances gentlemen, I think it was totally unjustified, wrong, to criticize Israel and to charge and to bring about such wrong and indeed vicious allegations. [end recording]

Responding to reporters' questions, the justice minister said that the International Red Cross has access to detainees within 14 days of their arrest. In special cases this is granted within 7 days. He added that convicted prisoners may be visited by the Red Cross at will.

Tamir explained that prisoners and detainees frequently invent charges of brutal torture and gave an example.

[Begin recording] There was a complaint by a certain Arab from Gaza who said that he was tortured to the point where he was castrated by our authorities. He had the proof to show our brutality. Luckily enough we found documents in a hospital in the Gaza Strip that the man was castrated by an Egyptian doctor prior to the occupation of the Gaza Strip by the Israeli authorities. I could give you all the details with the name of the prisoner and the facts, and you could see the document, which luckily enough, as I say, were found in the Gaza hospital. [end recording]

MA'ARIV COMMENTS ON WEIZMAN-SHARON RELATIONS

TA081130 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Feb 79 p 17 TA

[Uri Dan commentary: "The Good Relations Between Weizman and Sharon Are Arousing Concern Among Those Close to Begin"]

[Text] The personal and working relations between Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon are much better than the gloomy and distorted picture which some people are trying to paint.

Because of this, those in the know about these complicated relations were not surprised when this week Weizman invited Sharon to watch an important IDF exercise with him.

This was a refreshing change of mood in comparison with other days, those of the Alinement government, when care was specifically taken not to invite Sharon to even military exercises and discussions, when the previous prime minister and minister of defense neither could nor would intervene so that Sharon could attend these important events in the framework of his emergency post in the reserves and his job as adviser to the prime minister...

Those present at the exercise were impressed by the friendly relations between the two ministers, who arrived there by plane: "It was a pleasure to see two old battle horses watching fighters--this time from the viewpoint of ministers," one of the officers said.

And indeed, despite the deep and principle differences of opinion which have for a long time been accompanied by severe mutual criticism, which was both bitter and superfluous, Sharon and Weizman are now speaking a language they both understand. This language has more than once bridged the contradictory views of the two men, both of whom are fervent in their beliefs.

Since at least March 1977 they have been holding consultations and dialog between themselves, with ups and downs, relations which have contributed toward advancing the peace negotiations with Egypt, while cutting down the security risks for Israel--more than anyone could have imagined.

The sign of the success of the dialog is also the fact that the communications media have generally reported the opposite of what occurred in reality. The reason for the distortions and misrepresentation was not only lack of information, but basic political hostility toward Minister Sharon, particularly in the Likud government, and in general.

There are people within the Likud who are concerned, from petty considerations, about any sign of rapprochement between Weizman and Sharon, knowing the impressive political power dormant in cooperation between the pair.

There are people in the defense minister's office who have regarded the rapprochement between 'Ezer and Arik sourly and hurried, in the wake of every "incident," to report to the press anonymously, with great exaggeration, that "we warned Weizman against Arik...." It appears that the good relations between the two ministers will leave the whisperers unemployed.

Some of the deliberate leaks, with the aim of undermining the relations between Weizman and Sharon, or to present them as being undermined, actually came from some of those close to the prime minister and not necessarily with his knowledge.

The same people in the prime minister's court have good intentions of "guarding Begin." It appears to them, particularly from a narrow viewpoint of control over Herut, that if there is every any dialog between Sharon and Weizman they should try to undermine it, apparently by the method of "divide and rule."

The road to governmental and national hell, which descends on us from time to time, is paved with "good intentions" of this type. It is doubtful whether Menahem Begin himself is aware of these acts.

EL AL TO CONTINUE FLIGHTS TO TEHRAN

TA081355 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[Text] El Al's director denied reports to the effect that his company is going to discontinue its flights to Tehran. He noted that El Al will do everything it can to save the Iranian Jews and will continue its flights despite the heavy financial losses.

BAKHTIAR DEFENDS ACTIONS AS PRIME MINISTER IN INITERVIEW

LD082030 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At the press, radio and television news conference held today by Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, 'Abbas Mosallanezhad, correspondent of the Voice of Iran and the Profile of Iran, was among the correspondents whose questions were answered by the prime minister. We draw your attention to that: [begin recording]

[Question] Dr Bakhtiar, in the present circumstances the realm is in such a state of affairs that two powers govern the people. And we have seen the results of that during the past few weeks: difficulties, a lack of direction in our embassies abroad, the disrupted state of the economy, and most important, the disorderly and confused internal discipline. I beg of you, as our country's prime minister, to be gracious enough to tell us how long we should wait before you or the Ayatollah Khomeyni saves the realm from this state of affairs.

[Answer] Whatever you may say about your obedient servant's government, the responsibility for it rests squarely with me. As for what others do, please ask them. Some 1, 2 or 3 months ago these gentlemen said that the shah should leave the realm. They said that freedom of the press should be granted--unfortunately, instead of one form of censorship you had three forms, and people like yourself have often told me this. In spite of everything we have implemented all the freedoms included in the progressive programs of all these groups--or we are about to do so--while when a person harbors personal rancor or lacks a constructive political ideology he is forced to resort to noise and din and to taking to the streets every day and create a commotion; this is what has happened to the realm.

I wish to see this very day the resumption of all the realm's economic projects. And it is not because I am tired of the strikes: the government is the last body of people that could be tired. It is the people who will suffer, and the realm will be driven to poverty and helplessness. You should know that history will one day pass judgment on this issue with total impartiality and will say that these gentlemen wanted this, got it, and then personal egotism and vendettas forced these gentlemen to say that "we" want something else. But what these things are they have never said clearly.

[Question] Dr Bakhtiar, during the past few weeks you have confined yourself to words and have not taken any action. Could it be that you have not wished to take any action, or was it that you thought the time was not ripe for such?

[Answer] I don't know about that. I have governed for exactly 4 weeks. The bills I have passed and the freedoms I have granted were not words, but actions. As for the transgressors--if that is what you mean--your obedient servant has not come to power to see Iranian blood shed by Iranians. As far as is possible I shall act with modernation, but certain things and certain circumstances will come about when I will take a stand; and this stand will be in the interests of the nation.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, some people believe that apart from the things that have taken place, agreements have been made behind the scenes, and that because of the conditions of the time or because the people are not ready to receive these agreements, they have not been made public. I beg of you, because in the past you have spoken to the people, to clarify this issue today.

[Answer] Might I beg of you to tell the newspapers KEYHAN and ETTELA'AT that at least Dr Bakhtiar tells the truth? [interrupted by several people speaking simultaneously] I beg to inform you that nothing special has taken place behind the scenes as you said. Only, all genuine Iranians should endeavor to prevent bloodshed, strife and the separation of one sector of the people from the other. I am prepared to play my role toward this end. But what I am under no circumstance prepared to do from the standpoint of the government is to recognize any other government but the lawful one.

[Question] Mr Prime Minister, with the announcement of the program by Engineer Bazargan a group of workers from the ministries have joined him. Now, should Mr Bazargan appoint ministers and should these ministers issue instructions from their homes and should the employees of the ministries carry out their instructions, in that case what steps would you have in mind?

[Answer] Within the limits of words and the (?social conditions) there is no cause for anxiety with regard to paralyzing the realm. [passage indistinct]

[Question] Dr Bakhtiar, I think that without the support of the silent forces in this realm you will not succeed. Do you confirm this view, and if so what do you have in mind to win the backing of that silent percentage as prime minister?

[Answer] I beg to inform you that what is certain is that a vast number of the citizens of the realm, because of a lack of genuine and national political parties, do not know exactly what they want. My main thought was that by granting freedoms, individuals should be able to set up political organizations. No one so far--for the past 2 or 3 months--has thought of this. Unfortunately, since I am the head of the government I do not wish to become a party builder like others. It is up to the citizens of the realm to be able to embark on such a task freely. And I hope that enlightened people, whether they are for or against me, will be able to put forward the democratic ideals they hold, that the people will be able to judge for themselves and that whomever receives a majority will take up the helm of government. [end recording]

BAKHTIAR COMMENTS ON KHOMEYNI, BAZARGAN AT PRESS CONFERENCE

LD082200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] This morning Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, took part in a press, radio and television news conference. First, addressing French [word indistinct] correspondents, the prime minister said: I begin my remarks today with a quotation from Leon Blum, a former French premier, who said: The men of politics either repeat their words and deeds or act contrary to what they have already said and done. I hope that in my case the question of repeating applies, as this is unavoidable. I will reiterate loudly what I told you at our last meeting: My concept of freedom, democracy, free elections and other issues which constitute the problems of the day. Then I will dwell on the urgent problems and issues of the government, or a quasi-government, which wants to take shape. Then I will speak in detail about the framework of the government that exists.

I think we are playing with the word democracy more than is necessary. If the concept of democracy means government of the people, by the people, for the people, then I think that during the entire period of my political life--which has been 40 years of struggle--I have meticulously fought for such a government, whether in the Spanish Civil War, during the occupation of France, during the period of the government of Dr Mosaddeq, or during the past 25 years.

I should say that I have fought, as all have done--or as those people whose names are being repeated by everyone have done--for the constitution, which embraces all state organizations, and for principles which would enable the people to elect a government of their choice and to have the freedom of speech and the freedom to assert their existence. I am not a person who goes back on his words. Those who are in the arena these days have fought for such an aim during the past 18 months and have fought for the constitution. But now they ignore this issue. I am not harping back to what was written by my friend Bazargan, for whom I have great respect. I can now speak to him freely, but it appears that he does not have, as it were, even this freedom of expression. He is a man who has given his best over a period of 10 years so that the constitution might enjoy respect; and should certain of its principles need revision, then there is no problem here.

I am not even going to say a single word about the extremely clear telegram which the Ayatollah Khomeyni communicated to the court minister of the time 15 years ago saying that the constitution should remain intact and that any transgression against or attempt to change or alter it would be a crime. These documents exist and you could read them. As always, I have been true to my words and, as the truth entails penalties, I am paying this penalty as the cost of the position I am currently adopting.

As for what is connected with democracy, I shall once again return to the elections. The elections represent an issue which is the immediate concern of the people. When I say the people, I mean people who are informed and clear, people who know what they want. When such informed people say something, their words should be listened to, since this is quite different from street demonstrations and the slogans chanted by a group of demonstrators who do not comprehend their meaning and concept.

The prime minister added: In view of the fact that cinemas, clubs, sports stadiums, universities and schools are closed, these street demonstrations have turned into a form of entertainment for the people. However, these people have the right to express their views calmly in democratic political parties. Such an expression of opinion by these people is acceptable and worthy of respect, and I will be the first person to bow my head in respect.

The prime minister added: What the people say they want is certainly not what they are being given today. If freedom has been given, then the question comes to mind: For what has it been given? The people have fought for 18 months to be able to set up parties. Over a period of 6 months we utilized all possibilities to be able to get together as the national front. Why do political leaders not take steps to gather groups within a party organized for constructive purposes? These people prefer back streets and fights, and I think their concept of freedom is not clear to them. Indeed, democracy in principle does not exist without political parties. When political parties do not exist, and only one party exists, then that is when dictatorship makes its presence felt.

The prime minister said: This dictatorship continued for a period of 25 years. What has now come about, and what the people are after, is that we should obtain freedom. It is time for elections to take place, when we should on the whole bring about structured political parties--this is unavoidable in a democracy. But certain people are not in favor of this. They are after brawls, arson and meaningless moves, and at the same time they claim that they are the majority, while the majority should be calm and display commonsense in order to be able to decide on the destiny of the country.

In his press conference today Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar added: The severe economic blows of the past few months and the destruction will be assessed one of these days, and I think that those who are persisting today so that the realm's economy may be paralyzed will bear an extremely onerous responsibility. What could one do? Should the government accept all the proposals of these individuals? I have said once and I say again that I will never do that. I agree with democracy, but with terror, never. We have witnessed terror and suppression for 25 years, and now enough is enough.

Dr Bakhtiar said: Regarding the economic blows, I should say that the government or a particular person will not suffer from these, but rather the nation and realm will suffer. In this manner we will become increasingly impoverished every day, and I do not know when we will be able to improve the country's economic affairs.

He said: I do not know whether the actions which are currently taking place are being carried out consciously or otherwise, but the result will either be extending a begging bowl to others or returning to the state from which we suffered in the past. At any rate, the continuation of this violent and tiresome state of affairs is not in our interest, and I am where I am to put an end to it. I am not the only one to be tormented by this state of affairs, but it is the people and the realm's economy in its totality which are suffering from this disturbed situation. I think that it suits this government's rival for this state of affairs to continue. But then the world will know that these people do not have a program and can only perceive the negative aspect of the situation. But when the people become really tired, they will settle accounts with them. My final aim is national unity. But from what I gather, the opposition people do not have any correct political program, or their program is a backward, medieval one.

The prime minister added: From the concept of what they say, we assume a form of medieval dogmatism and obscurantism.

Dr Bakhtiar then said: Here, certain communist groups, which have other programs, have added their voices to those of the demonstrators; and this is another issue. I do not know why certain people outside Iran who are linked with committees of the communist party approve of Islamic ideas. This in itself is another issue which should be studied.

The unity about which I have already spoken would prevent the fragmentation of the realm, since the danger exists that if the people tire of the situation the question of separation might be brought up, autonomy might be demanded and later we might have complete separation. For this reason I am fighting, to begin with, for national unity, then for democracy and, in the third stage, for free elections--and held in a healthy political atmosphere with the aim of clarifying the views of the national majority to whom I bow in reverence.

In answer to another correspondent who asked about the constitution, Prime Minister Bakhtiar said: My legality is in accordance with the constitution. We have a constitution which stipulates: the prime minister must be appointed by the shah. The shah is not responsible to the parliament; instead, it is the prime minister who bears responsibility. This is a law which is observed in nearly all democratic countries. If a country happens to change its constitution, then it can also change these criteria. However, as long as the constitution remains in force, things cannot be changed by shouting in the streets.

A correspondent asked: Dr Bakhtiar, you say chaos must end. How can you manage to normalize the situation?

The prime minister said: I have always hoped to achieve this goal. When a country has lived under a dictatorship for 25 years and then wants to practice democracy, confrontation with internal turmoil becomes unavoidable. However, these disturbances and clamor cannot continue forever. I hope that the people will realize that the process of democracy and freedom must exist side by side in a country, and that chaos must be ended gradually.

Another correspondent asked: Dr Bakhtiar, what contacts or relations do you have with Dr Bazargan and what do you think of the resignation of the Majlis deputies?

The prime minister said: As for my personal relations with Mr Bazargan, I must say that we have been friends for the past 30 years. Therefore the best possible relations exist between us. As I said at the beginning, I have a great deal of respect for him. Obviously, I do not mean to say that we have always agreed on every point. Those who believe in freedom and democracy can hold divergent views. However, as for the government, I must point out that in Iran only one government can be in power: it is either the Bazargan administration which is to rule the country--and I must state that I do not recognize it officially--or it is a government which can proceed to tackle the existing problems and obstacles, and this is the government headed by me. To put it simply, the resignation of such and such a deputy does not change anything. The day before yesterday, I took part in the parliamentary session and had two bills, concerning the dismantling of SAVAK and the punishment of transgressors and corrupt individuals, approved by the Majlis. Now, if in the middle of these events 30 or 40 deputies have resigned, this is something which concerns them alone, not me.

Another correspondent asked: Do you think there is still any chance of a compromise between you and Engineer Bazargan? The point is that according to some informed sources, Ayatollah Khomeyni's choice of Engineer Bazargan, who enjoys great respect, was a form of compromise by him.

The prime minister said: I told you that I know Bazargan and respect him. However, if you speak to him you will realize that he is unable to talk about me as frankly, because he is under obligation, while I am free. It is true that I was appointed by the shah as prime minister. However, I was free; I demanded total freedom from the shah and managed to obtain it. But he does not enjoy the same freedom; he is attached to another source. Now, should Mr Bazargan decide to contact the government in order to achieve unity and end the country's chaos, should he decide to cooperate with the present government through the introduction of government ministers and advisers, then I will be quite ready to enter into talks with him. However, if he decides to insist on the legality of his government, or an Islamic or non-Islamic government, then naturally there cannot be any agreement.

A correspondent asked: It appears that some 200 have gone on strike in the Foreign Ministry.

Dr Shshpur Bakhtiar said: Unfortunately, the Foreign Ministry is the last ministry we shall need. [sentence as heard]

Another correspondent asked: Do you enjoy U.S. support?

Dr Bakhtiar answered: You should ask Mr Carter, not me. It is up to the United States to support or not support my government.

The prime minister was told: This is what is being chanted in the streets, that you have the support of the United States.

Dr Bakhtiar said: What is shouted in the streets by boys at the instigation of a number of communists and extremists is not what all Iranians say about me. You can ask the thinking people, people who know what they want.

Dr Bakhtiar was asked: Do you in principle attach any importance to U.S. support?

Dr Bakhtiar replied: I say it again. If the U.S. administration helps me, so much the better; if not, it is not important.

Another question was then posed: In opposing you, Dr. Sanjabi has stated his solidarity with the Ayatollah Khomeyni. Do you think he also has ideas which belong to the Middle Ages? That he is not free either?

Dr Bakhtiar said: Dr Sanjabi's ideas are neither petrified nor belong to the Middle Ages. His only fault is that he keeps changing his mind every quarter of an hour. This is his only problem; otherwise, he would have had more success.

The prime minister was asked: Do you think that the Pahlavi dynasty was legal? Did it reign in accordance with the constitution? Was the parliament which gave you a vote of confidence legal?

Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar replied: Tell me, was the House of Capet, which dominated France for almost a thousand years, completely legal? All monarchical dynasties have taken over in a similar or almost similar manner and under similar circumstances. At any rate, I received my appointment from a shah who also appointed Dr Mosaddeq, who was head and shoulders above all those you see today in Iran's political arena.

If what you mean to say is that the Pahlavi dynasty took over by force, then you must remember that all dynasties have acted in the same manner. The only thing was that this time, as a result of carelessness, it disturbed traditions. This very dynasty, as I have explained, issued orders making Mosaddeq, and others, prime minister. The very Dr Sanjabi we have been discussing, as well as many other ministers, received their orders from the shah. I am puzzled now; now that it has come to me--bearing in mind that I did not volunteer for it, that I accepted responsibility solely to save the country from chaos and turmoil--now these gentlemen are making so much noise.

At this point the prime minister said: I am prepared to change the constitution, but in accordance with the constitutional provisions.

Another correspondent said: With regard to the legality of the Iranian parliament, you did not answer the question.

The prime minister said: Yes. I must remind you that the Majlis which approved the nationalization of the Iranian oil industry, which was Mosaddeq's masterpiece, had only five nationalist deputies; the rest were precisely the same as the present deputies.

I must emphasize that there has never been a free election in Iran. I say loudly and clearly that the great majority of all the deputies in the history of the Iranian parliament have been elected in the same manner as the present deputies. The only thing we are trying to tell these people is that instead of taking to the streets and chanting, they should organize their own political parties as soon as possible, so that in the course of the forthcoming elections we might be able to send true representatives of the people and country to parliament.

At this point a correspondent asked: Dr Bakhtiar, do you approve of changing the constitution?

The prime minister replied: I respect the people's wishes. The future free elections will decide the fate of the constitution, whether I am for or against it. Obviously, I respect the people's wish; I have no respect for street chanting.

The press, radio and television news conference held by Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar lasted 1 hour and ended before noon.

BAKHTIAR COMMENTS ON ROLE OF ARMY AT PRESS CONFERENCE

LD090058 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the prime minister, held a press, radio and television news conference this morning.

A correspondent asked: Mr Prime Minister, is Esfahan under the control, like certain other cities, of ordinary people?

Dr Bakhtiar said: I have been talking about a government, not a theologian [mujtahid]. A theologican is not a government. As far as Esfahan is concerned, I asked the military governor of the city about the situation there last night. He said the situation was very good and it was quiet. It is here that the papers have either censored the news or not reported the facts. To find out what is really happening in my country I will have to read the foreign press. It is sad to say this, but when I give them freedom, the press destroys it like this, or they shout that such and such a person has been arrested or assassinated. Why do they not come out and clearly report the facts?

The question was asked: In Qom and Esfahan the police have been appointed by the clergy, and the clergy have certain organizations. What can be done?

Mr Bakhtiar said: The situation will calm down; they will prove themselves that a theologican cannot run a country, as (?an ordinary man) is not able to handle politics, since he is not made for politics.

He was asked: Do you think the army can do anything in support of the constitution?

Mr Bakhtiar replied: The army is in the service of the government; here we do not have a state within a state. This is a point I have repeated hundreds of times; I have said that the army does not take part in politics. However, people start such rumors to bring about a war of nerves and promote their political struggle. As I have said, the army is remote from politics; it is subject to government orders. However, once the constitution has been changed, then the army's role will change accordingly.

At this point someone asked: Mr Prime Minister, have you had any telephone contact or personal contact during the past few days with Mr Bazargan? If not, are you going to have any?

Mr Bakhtiar replied: I saw Mr Bazargan a few days ago along with some friends. As I pointed out, I am always ready to receive him and hold talks with him. I have also had telephone conversations with Mr Bazargan's close friends.

He was asked: Have you spoken to Mr Bazargan about the exemplary society he is trying to create?

The prime minister said: Listen, Sir, Mr Bazargan is a graduate of Paris central school. [as heard] The fact that he is 10 years older than I am is irrelevant. However, he is a man who, outside his very profound religious beliefs, is a rational, candid and sincere individual; a man to whom one is always willingly prepared to talk. Right now, we are conducting talks and can have agreeable views on solving a great many difficulties. However, on such problems as a republic or a constitutional system we may differ. Mr Bazargan is an individual with whom I have often held talks; we have been in prison together a number of times. As someone alongside whom I have always fought in the same trench, he will always remain friends; I am prepared to negotiate with him at any time in the best possible manner. However, this does not mean that I would accept each of his specific views.

Someone asked: Mr Prime Minister, can you explain the present situation in the army?

The prime minister answered: Listen, I tell you and assure you that in [word indistinct] of the country and generally in the army there is no specific problem or specific weakness. The issue involves a few technicians. These people are technicians or assistant engineers. Therefore, considering their legal rights, they have caused some commotion, demanding better and more wages. The only thing said about the army is this: Some of these people have been discharged; the rest of them will also be discharged.

A correspondent asked: How can you expect to be popular when the majority does not agree with you?

Mr Bakhtiar said: I am not after popularity. I do not quite understand what you mean by majority or a specific group. I do realize that Iran is passing through a critical period, that a certain group is exacerbating this critical situation. Therefore we need strength, great endeavors as well as clarification of a great many problems for the people. Not all the young people shouting in the streets know what they are saying or what they want. After all, you are here yourself and can ask them yourself. Even when they talk about Khomeyni they do not know what they want; neither do they know what policy, what method or what foreign policy they are talking about. You saw their demonstrations yourself. Consequently, for people who do not wish to know about the specific methods they have advocated, a great many things must be explained and clarified.

What I am saying is that instead of taking to the streets every day, these people should operate within the framework of politics, form a political front and then vote within the context of democracy. It is only through this method they can achieve a 100 percent democratic government.

AFP: BAZARGAN CALLS ON BAKHTIAR TO RESIGN

TA091100 Paris AFP in English 1030 GMT 9 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, Feb 9 (AFP)--Mehdi Bazargan, head of the "provisional government" set up by opposition Shi'ite Muslim leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, today called on Iranian Premier Shahpur Bakhtiar to resign.

Mr Bakhtiar, whose government was in "total isolation," should "rejoin the forces of the people," Mr Bazargan told newsmen here.

He then put forward a government programme based on the following six points:

1. A transfer of power from the Bakhtiar government to his own;
2. A referendum on a change of regime;
3. The reorganisation of the country;
4. Elections for a constituent assembly;
5. The drawing up of a new constitution;
6. The formation of an Islamic government.

Mr Bazargan, who has not named his provisional government, also asked the Iranian Army to "confine itself to its mission of defending the country's borders."

AFP: KHOMEYNI SETS UP OWN TELEVISION STATION

TA081829 Paris AFP in English 1824 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, 8 Feb (AFP)--In apparent violation of the state monopoly, the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni set up his own television station today. Television sets, on car roofs or in the streets around the ayatollah's home, showed to thousands of viewers scenes of the religious leader's return to Tehran, his speech in the Behesht-e Zahra cemetery, his first press conference last Saturday and the introduction of Mehdi Bazargan as prime minister of the "provisional government."

The service from a school near the Ayatollah Khomeyni's home in the south of Tehran was set up by striking technicians from the national television service. Viewers within a five kilometer (3 miles) radius could tune in.

AYATOLLAH SHARI'AT-MADARI COMMENTS ON ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

LD081325 Paris L'AURORE in French 6 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Jean Jolly 5 February Tehran report: "One Prime Minister Too Many in Iran"]

[Excerpt] With John Cooper--an Englishman about 50 years old converted to Islam, wearing the Aba, a loose black burnoose--acting as interpreter, 76 year-old Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari, the most realistic man among the Shi'ite hierarchy, outlined for me--true, in a rather vague manner--the options and orientations of the future Islamic republic.

In the economic sphere: "The system will be neither socialist nor capitalist," he told me. "It will be something in between. The Islamic economic system will respect individual rights. Money must circulate."

Money is certainly circulating. During the 2 hours which I spent sitting on a rug in the religious leader's room, thousands of rials changed hands, and the ayatollah hid under his rug the wads of banknotes handed over by every visitor who cam to consult him or ask him to certify some document.

This made me wonder about the problem of Islamic taxation. "In the Islamic state," he told me, "religious taxes (there are three kinds, which amount to one-fifth of the profits on any transaction; they constitute the ayatollahs' fighting fund) which are paid to the state will amount to 2 percent in the case of poor people."

And what about religious minorities: "All minorities will have the right to elect a representative to parliament provided they constitute communities of 100,000 people," he told me. This obviously rules out Jews!

The problem of parties whose members are unbelievers: "It will be necessary to distinguish between Iranian parties and those which are foreign-controlled." This raises the problem of the legal existence of the communist Tudeh Party.

And what about foreign policy? After stroking his big white beard, Ayatollah Shari'at-Madari quoted for me a very beautiful line from the Koran: "All those who hold out a hand of friendship to us must be given our friendship."

However, the Islamic republic will be unable to maintain any relations with Israel until an agreement is concluded with all Arabs. Similarly, the South Africans will have to give up apartheid if they want to start receiving Iranian oil again.

As for Khomeyni, Shari'at-Madari hoped that he would visit him in Qom in a few hours' time, and he insisted on adding in order to deny all information referring to disagreement between them: "Our views do not differ as far as principles are concerned."

Therefore, everything is just fine in the best of all Shi'ite worlds. Since, according to Ayatollah Ahari'at-Madari, an Islamic government must represent the people's power, he gave further information which could make any compromise easier to achieve. "The ayatollahs," he said, "will not participate in any government.

KHOMEYNI AIDE BANI SADR COMMENTS ON FUTURE OIL POLICY

OW080305 Tokyo JOAK Television in Japanese 2330 GMT 7 Feb 79 OW

[Text] According to NHK Tehran correspondent (Sagara) Abdolhasan Bani Sadr, close associate of Khomeyni, leader of the Iranian anti-establishment movement, was interviewed by the NHK correspondent in Tehran on 7 February. Bani Sadr is in charge of Khomeyni's economic policy.

During the interview, Bani Sadr made it clear that after an Islamic republic is inaugurated, petroleum exports will be continued only in quantities sufficient to cover payments for machinery and materials to be imported for construction in Iran. He added: The quantity of petroleum production in Iran will be determined by Iran's needs for economic development. We plan to export petroleum in return for the purchase of equipment. However, petroleum exports will cover only the consumption of importing countries, and no petroleum will be exported for them to stockpile.

Thus Bani Sadr made it clear that when the Islamic republic--as proposed by Khomeyni--is founded, Iran will resume petroleum exports under some restrictions on quantity.

Concerning the Bandar-e Shahpur petrochemical combine, a Japan-Iran joint venture, Bani Sadr said: We think the petrochemical industry should be developed, and joint ventures need not feel uneasy. However, they must be developed as an integrated part of the Iranian economy. Thus he revealed a plan to seek Japanese cooperation while stressing that Iran's interests should be respected.

TEHRAN PAPER REPORTS U.S., PRAVDA REACTIONS TO EVENTS

LD081614 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Press review]

[Excerpts] AYANDEGAN, which is one of Tehran's morning papers, next to a picture of Bazargan reports: The United States has been in contact with Bazargan. The paper continues: The U.S. State Department, which has recently refrained from commenting on Iran's developments, has changed its attitude now and has once again declared its support for the Iranian constitution and Shahpur Bakhtiar's government. At the same time it should be stated that all opposition groups in Iran are trying to oust the shah-appointed government and that the United States has been in contact with these groups.

On page 2 of AYANDEGAN, we come to a report in column one on PRAVDA greetings to the provisional government of Bazargan. AYANDEGAN says: Yesterday, PRAVDA hailed the formation of a provisional government in Iran, denounced flagrant U.S. interference in Iran and expressed the view that the Bakhtiar government could not continue without this interference. It would be remiss of us if we did not view the PRAVDA greetings more carefully and forget the fact that a fisherman is constantly seeking a fish to catch.

PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION HELD IN CAPITAL, VIOLENCE IN GORGAN

LD081144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Today, (?calm) demonstrations took place in Tehran and most Iranian cities, except Gorgan. Very early this morning vast groups of people, carrying placards and slogans supporting His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni and Eng Mehdi Bazargan marched in orderly ranks toward Shahyad Square in Tehran. Up to now the demonstrations in Tehran have been quiet, and according to our correspondents' dispatches, over (?1 million) people are taking part in these demonstrations. Similarly, according to our correspondents' dispatches from Hamadan, eastern and western Azerbayjan, Abadan, Nahavand, Ahvaz, Mianeh, Esfahan, Yazd, Kerman, Zanjan, Shiraz and Rasht, in the country's northern cities and most of the country's towns, millions of Iranian people took part in quiet marches today.

During today's demonstrations in Gorgan the demonstrators burned several shops on Pahlavi Avenue. Our correspondent reported from Gorgan: As a result of clashes between the demonstrators and police officers 3 people were killed and 21 were wounded. These demonstrations follow an attack by a number of opposition people against a police officer. This morning, an opposition group attacked a police officer (?near) the Hamze-ye Hoseyni monastery, and as a result the policeman and another person were killed and two people were wounded.

Gorgan Death Toll Reaches 12

LD082144 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] According to the latest report, shootings and clashes in Gorgan continued until 2100 and, regrettably, the number of people killed has reached 12. Those wounded, totaling 45 according to the latest reports, are hospitalized.

TEHRAN: 25,000 MARCH IN FAVOR OF BAKHTIAR IN REZA'IYEH

LD082012 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] This afternoon, 25,000 people of Reza'iyeh, inhabitants of nearby villages and workers of the Reza'iyeh sugar factory went on a peaceful march in support of the constitution and the Bakhtiar government. According to reports, the demonstrations ended without any clashes.

TUDEH PARTY ISSUES DECLARATION ON PEOPLE'S RESISTANCE

AU071415 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 6 Feb 79 p 7 AU

[ADN dispatch from Paris: "Tudeh Party Statement"]

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee has taken a stand on the current situation in the country in a declaration. The declaration says:

By preparing the resistance and the armed offensive, we are crushing the conspiracy of the imperialists and reaction. Patriots, the revolution in Iran is passing through a sensitive stage. The current objective of the imperialist American plot, in which it was important for the shah to install the Bakhtiar government, is clear. The policy of the Bakhtiar government of traitors consists in working for a suitable moment at which American imperialism can realize its plans and save the Iranian regime. The counterrevolution's tactics consist of wearing out the people in their struggle, and of splitting the revolutionary strugglers. To achieve this objective, the counterrevolution resorts to massacres by SAVAK, police commandos, the gendarmerie and other obscure gangs. It resorts to the execution of patriotic soldiers, NCO's and officers who refuse to obey their superiors' orders and shoot at the people. Briefly, the black terror continues under the leadership of the American Huyser, put across [vermittelt] by criminal army generals and implemented by the so-called civilian Bakhtiar government.

The resistance and heroic struggle of the Iranian people, their rallies and political strikes have yielded remarkable success. They have neutralized the imperialist plot and have inflicted severe blows on the Iranian regime. But the present black terror, which resembles a creeping coup d'etat, proves that the imperialists and the reaction are determined to defend their positions stubbornly. Therefore they have forced the civil war on the Iranian people. This once more reaffirms the forecasts and analyses of the Iranian Tudeh Party. According to these, it is impossible in the specific situation in Iran to bring the revolution to an end by means of rallies and strikes alone. The imperialist and reactionary counterrevolution must be crushed to put an end to the Pahlavi dynasty, to defeat imperialism with the United States at the head, to establish democratic freedom, to restore the health of the national economy and to improve the people's living conditions. The resistance and armed offensive of the people must be prepared and organized.

In our opinion the leaders of the democratic movement must not fail to exploit a single moment in view of the various maneuvers of the enemy. It is time to call up the people to prepare and organize the resistance and armed struggle.

Fighting people, defend yourself with weapons against the massacres of American imperialism and its Iranian slaves. Fight with arms, crush the enemy's offensive so that the Revolution can be brought to a victorious end.

Soldiers, NCO's and officers, your efforts cannot be effective with hunger strikes. Crush the enemy's military apparatus with armed offensives, by occupying military units and important enemy bases, and put yourselves at the people's disposal.

The imperialists and their serfs are trying to frighten the people with the "spectre" of communism or with the danger which allegedly threatens the national integrity or with other lies to weaken the people's unity front. They are attempting to separate the militant clerics from the other democratic forces. Unity is indispensable today more than ever. Let us guard this unity like the apple of our eye.

By carrying on the political struggle in all forms, by coordinating it with a prepared and organized resistance and armed struggle, we are crushing the counterrevolution of imperialism and the reaction in order to set up the republic and to safeguard democracy, independence and social justice. Long live the heroic Iranian people.

The Executive Committee of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, 30 January 1979--10 Bahman 1357.

BUDAPEST NEWSPAPER INTERVIEWS TUDEH'S KIANURI

For a Budapest NEPSZABADSAG report on an interview with Nuroddin Kianuri, first secretary of the Iranian Tudeh Party Central Committee, see the Hungary Section of the 9 February Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

NVOI: REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT WANTS NATIONAL REPUBLIC

TA081801 [Editorial Report TA] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1800 GMT on 5 February divides its program into two sections: a commentary and a news and comment section. In its initial commentary the radio reviews the "illegal" nature of the Bakhtiar government and the "opportunistic" way Bakhtiar came to power. The commentary discusses the prime minister's interviews and his ineligibility to lead the Iranian national movement because both he and the parliament, like "the rejected regime of the shah, have no basis in legality."

Turning to the future, the radio says: "Whether one has been listening to His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni or to the leaders of the national and democratic movement of the Iranian nation for information on the Islamic republic [jomhuri-ye Eslami], it has been stated on numerous occasions that the Islamic national republic [jomhuri-ye melli-ye Eslami] is the confirmation of the national revolution of the Iranian Muslim nation. It has often been said that these are not just words or a name, but a reality." Bakhtiar realizes this but he still turns to General Huyser, Sullivan and the shah's general staff for encouragement, the radio says, adding that he has even gone so far as to claim that his regime and that of Saudi Arabia are Islamic republics.

Bakhtiar knows, the radio explains, that the Iranian people will not accept a despotic government to replace the "dictatorship of the shah." "In its national and democratic revolution the Iranian nation has shown" that it will no longer accept dictatorship and despotism. "Bakhtiar knows that the Iranian nation and its national and religious leaders, in selecting the future political system, have the goals" of destroying dictatorship and eliminating foreign influence.

At the beginning of its news and comment section, the radio says: "Dear fellow citizens, please pay attention to a few news items. On the occasion of the (?39th) anniversary of the martyrdom of Dr (Taqqi Arami) in the prison of Reza Shah, a memorial was presented at the grave of that struggling and brave man." In the eulogy of Dr (Taqqi Arami) it was recalled that "he lost his life on behalf of the freedom of the nation of Iran."

The eulogist then invites "all those struggling along the road of freedom and democracy and all the forces of the Iranian revolution to protect and strengthen their unity of effort and words in the struggle to drive out the rejected monarchical regime and to establish a republican and national government based on the will of the people."

The radio then reports that following the gathering at the gravesite, "a group of club-wielding thugs of SAVAK and Bakhtiar" attacked the "brave assembly." "This attack by the remnants of the shah" was met with brave resistance. "Our reporter says that the students and faculty who published an announcement on the occasion of the anniversary of the martyrdom of Dr (Taqqi Arami) praised the activities of this great and knowledgeable son of Iran. On the walls of many houses and public places announcements have appeared which carry this statement by Dr (Taqqi Arami): 'Only that step is sacred which protects the interests of the masses.' The people of our country are continuing the struggle in order to obtain order [words indistinct] and the protection of the interests of the masses, and to defend the interests of the people."

The radio continues: "Our reporter in Hamadan reports that 456 homafars [military technicians with rank between NCO and officer] from the (Shahrokhi) air base, who were arrested for striking and insurrection [words indistinct] by the commandos of the illegal government of Bakhtiar, were taken to the Tabriz base. On receiving this news, the people of Tabriz petitioned the office of the provincial governor and that of the military commander of Tabriz to release immediately these praiseworthy sons of the nation who sided with the nation in the most sensitive moments in the history of our country." "Likewise the members of the families--especially the mothers and sisters of the arrested homafars of Hamadan--also asked the government and the military authorities to release their sons and brothers."

"Dear fellow citizens, when the people and especially the masses" join the revolutionary movement in order to achieve their objectives, the radio says, "then the revolutionary movement is carried into a higher phase." "The revolutionary movement in our country is now entering such a phase of self-realization. About 2 years have passed since the beginning of the people's movement in our country." "The vast masses of the people and the toiling classes have joined the movement," and they have demonstrated that the revolution is developing rapidly. The basic objective of the people's struggle is the rejection of despotism and corruption, the radio continues.

"The objective of the democratic and national revolution" in which the Iranian people are now embroiled is the destruction of the "monarchy which is tied to imperialism and the creation of a (?national republic)," the radio reports. "In the national democratic movement all strata of our society--especially the toilers, the clergy, the bazaar merchants, the university students [word indistinct] and all those concerned about the real (?awareness of Iran)--are participating very actively. There is no doubt that the toiling masses, the workers, villagers, toiling (?leaders) and progressive clergymen, in addition to the intellectuals attached to the people, constitute (?the most solid) force of the revolutionary movement." The revolutionary movement in our country has entered a higher phase of its development and is nearer to "its revolutionary democratic and national goals." Consequently, "the role of the toiling masses is taking on increasing importance," the radio says. "The toiling masses, led by the working class, just as they fought" against the monarchy in the past, "are now ready to join all other strata and progressive classes and with the defenders of freedom and of real progress in Iran to build a national republic upon the ashes of the rejected monarchy," the radio concludes.

PAKISTAN

PLO DELEGATION ARRIVES WITH 'ARAFAT MESSAGE FOR HAQ

BK081605 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Feb 79 BK

[Text] An official delegation of the Palestine Liberation Organization today arrived in Islamabad from Beirut. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN, the delegation is carrying a message from PLO chief Yasir 'Arafat to President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

Clemency for Bhutto

JN091014 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 9 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Islamabad, 9 Feb--A 5-member PLO delegation arrived here last night with a message from Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, to Pakistani President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq.

The INA correspondent in Islamabad has reported that the message contains an appeal from 'Arafat that President Ziaul Haq use his right of clemency to save former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto.

The Pakistani dailies today publish reports from all over the world about appeals made by several heads of states to President Ziaul Haq to pardon Bhutto.

JUDICIAL PANELS TO RULE ON ISLAMIC LAWS

BK081544 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 8 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The chief justice of the Supreme Court, Justice S. Anawarul Haq, today announced the setting up of a three-member Shariat appeal bench [to determine if any law is un-Islamic, and if so, to what extent]. The members of the bench are: Justice Mohammad Akram, Justice Mohammad Haleem and Justice Karam Elahi Chauhan.

Shariat benches have been set up in all high courts and will start working from the 12th of Rabiul Awal [10 February].

In Lahore, the chief justice of Lahore High Court, Justice Mushtaq Hussain, will preside over the bench. Other members of the bench are Justice Shafiur Rahman and Justice Zakiudeen Paul.

In Karachi, the chief justice of the Sind High Court, Justice Abdul Qadir Sheikh, will preside over the three-member Shariat bench. Other members of the bench are Justice I. Mahmud and Justice Zafar Hussain Mirza.

In Peshawar, the chief justice of Peshawar High Court, Justice Abdul Hakim Khan, will preside over the Shariat bench, which will also include Justice S. Osman Ali Shah and Justice Faqar al-Alam.

The chief justice of the Baluchistan High Court, Justice Mir Khuddah Baksh Marri, will preside over the Shariat bench in Quetta, which will also include Justice Abdul Qadir Chaudhry and Justice Mir Hazar Khan Khusro.